

THE

# Library Journal

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO

## Library Economy and Bibliography

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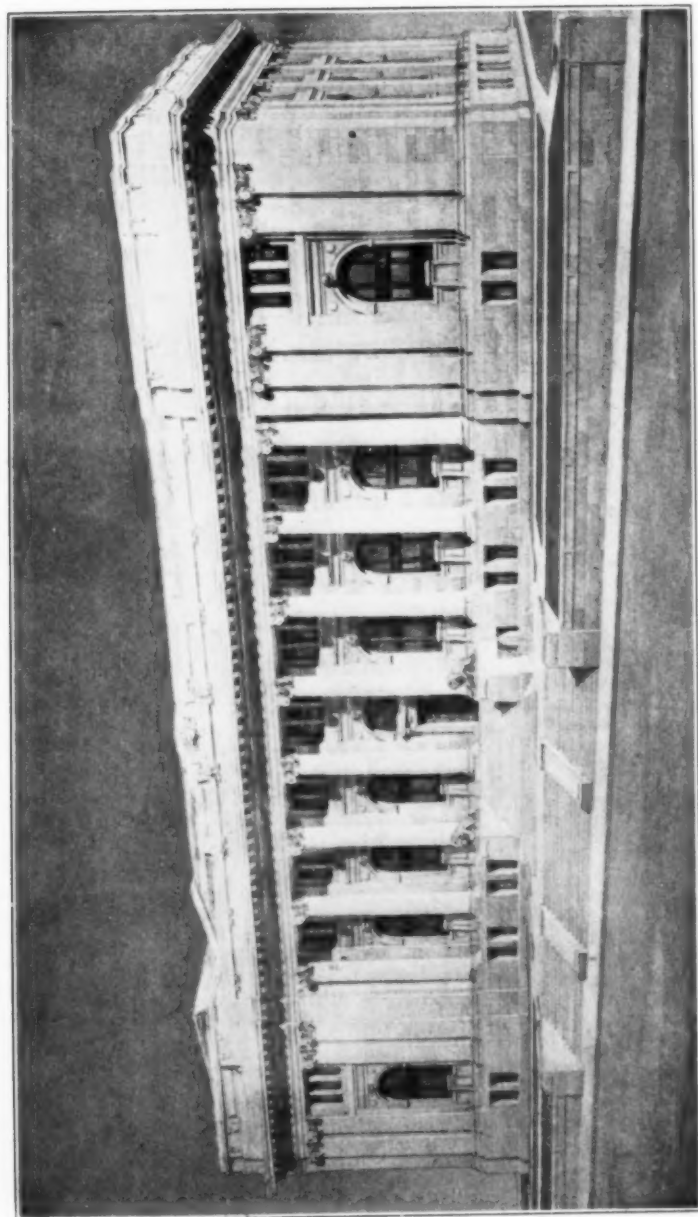
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**1856—1904.**





CARNEGIE BUILDING, SEATTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY.



# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

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OCTOBER, 1904.

No. 10

A PRELUDE, as it were, to the Conference of the American Library Association was heard at St. Louis last month in the meeting of the Library Section of the all-comprehending Congress of Arts and Science, of which the one hundred and forty-two sections held their meetings within a single week. Mr. Crunden's presentation of the library as forming with church and school the tripod base for social stability, Professor Biagi's brilliant imaginative flight into the future, and Mr. Axon's sensible review of the practical relations of the library, provided an excellent triad of papers, and it is to be regretted that they had not a larger professional hearing. The A. L. A. Conference itself will presently call together a large assemblage of the library profession, and we record a greeting in advance to all who come, especially to those new in the library field and to brethren from across the seas. It is a serious matter for European librarians to face the journey of three thousand miles across the sea and another thousand overland to St. Louis, and while the number of foreign librarians will not be large the delegation will be of a more representative character than there was at one time reason to hope for. The program will be of international interest, especially in its presentation of the present phases of the most important library topics. We wish for all a fruitful week and a happy emergence from the multifarious and perplexing sight-seeing of the great Fair.

ARE we to have no more books, in the printed sense, and are we to return to a modern version of Babylonian bricks, in the shape of phonograph records? This is the question which Professor Biagi is disposed to answer in the affirmative. Doubtless, phonograph records and the phonograph itself will become a feature of libraries—though it is by no means true that the author's reading, especially as recorded sometimes with undesirable modification by the phonograph, will be the most dulcet or more satisfactory method of presenting the written word. But there are three practical considerations which will save

the printed book from becoming a tradition of the past: storage, for phonograph records take much more room than print; expense, for they cannot be reproduced with the printing minimum of cost; and finally, but foremost of all, the fact that the eye is a superior organ to the ear, and can in a few seconds sweep a page where minutes would be required for the hearing. We cannot, therefore, follow Professor Biagi in his aerial flight, nor advise that the shelving of the modern stack shall be turned into warehouse bins for phonograph records.

THE Congress of Arts and Science, as outlined by Professor Münsterberg to cover all fields of knowledge, involves a classification of knowledges which is of interest from the point of view of library classification, and it is recorded, and reviewed by Dr. Richardson in this number. cursory examination of this classification might give the first impression that it is ultra-scientific, especially in introducing, if not inventing, new names for the generalization of cognate sciences; but Dr. Richardson's criticism is on the opposite ground—that it is not scientific enough; that is, that it does not represent the actual condition and division of knowledges. Whether history of jurisprudence shall be placed under History or under Jurisprudence is, of course, a problem admitting of either solution. In fact, to put it mathematically, the difficulty is that classification is a subject of two dimensions, while for library purposes and arrangement on shelves it has to be reduced to a question of one dimension—longitudinal shelf room. Mathematicians locate a point by the abscissa and the ordinate—one giving horizontal, the other vertical distance. An adequate scheme of classification would follow this practice and present the appearance of those railway fare tables in which the fare is found by looking down one column and along another column to the point of intersection. The history of jurisprudence thus would be given both in the Jurisprudence column looking one way and in the History column looking the

other way. This, however, would involve a not inconsiderable waste of space, and we must recognize that classification, like many earthly things, cannot be absolutely logical. It is necessarily a compromise. The classification necessary for a great collection like the National Library or the New York or Boston Public Library system is scarcely that desirable for the average reader, who must be guided to the subject he wants; an ordinary town library should provide rather for the needs of the average reader, by making its classification simple and easy to be understood of the common people. This was at the base of Mr. Cutter's idea for his *Expansive Classification*, and the *Decimal classifier* accomplishes the like purpose by using only the larger decimal classes.

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"LIBRARY week" at Lake Placid has taken its permanent place in the library calendar, and its recent fifth annual observance showed no falling off in attendance or in interest. The program varied somewhat from former years, but set an excellent standard, including Dr. Vincent's notable address; discussions were animated and spontaneous; the series of round table meetings were effectively conducted and were brisk, informal and informing. Indeed the atmosphere of the meeting was to a marked degree one of interest, practical activity, and good fellowship. It may also be recorded with satisfaction that the well-worn phrases "missionary work" and "inspiration" were conspicuous by their absence, and that Mr. Putnam's brief opening words struck a note of simplicity and true perspective that was distinctly helpful. One criticism to be made is that by some of the speakers the work of the librarian was too closely identified with the work of the school teacher—for in its relations with children, with teachers and with school activities, the library stands as the source and means for the informal personal education of the individual, rather than as an agency for active formal instruction.

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TYPE-SETTING, by instant manufacture from the molten metal, as is done by the "linotype" and with greater convenience for correction and revision by the "monotype," has revolutionized and vastly extended the cumulation of bibliographic material. For some time

such cumulation, as in the case of the "Annual American catalogue," was made by pasting and photographing printed slips, but the type-metal method has proved superior in every way. It is now proposed to apply this principle to the *Poole's Index* series, and first of all to prepare the material for the "Annual literary index" in the shape of a monthly periodical, which shall furnish, at a reasonable price within the means of small libraries as well as larger, a key to the periodicals universally taken, exclusive of those less generally taken, which last may however be cumulatively covered, possibly in a separate quarterly publication and finally in the "Annual literary index." The new volume of the *Abridged Poole's Index* closes with the present year, so that the new year makes a favorable opportunity for a change. Such a periodical it is planned to issue from the same office as the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, at a price not exceeding \$3, to include a single alphabet index to perhaps 40 periodicals, by author as well as subject entry, and to include also an index to dates.

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It is also intended in this new monthly to make a practical test of current evaluation under arrangements which are in progress with the Publishing Board of the American Library Association. The difficulty in the evaluation of current books has been twofold—that of issuing such evaluations with sufficient promptness to be of value in purchasing and that of obtaining an adequate staff of specialists co-ordinated with general editorship. The endeavor will be made to present evaluations of important books as soon after their publication as practicable; but, meantime, to present a selective purchase-list of books of the month and books immediately forthcoming, which will indicate, especially to small libraries, books to which they should give purchasing consideration. To obtain the best results and to prevent any question of extraneous influence, it is planned to have both the selection and the evaluation done by a representative of the Publishing Board and under its exclusive control. It is to be hoped that the plan of this periodical, which will be entirely distinct from the field of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, will afford to libraries at a low subscription rate several of the features which have been so much in demand.

## OLD PROBABILITIES IN THE LIBRARY—HIS MODEST VATICINATIONS.\*

BY ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK, *New York Public Library.*

"Don't never prophesy unless ye know," says Hosea Bigelow. I beg to call attention to the fact that this means "Don't prophesy at all"—perhaps it was so meant by the shrewd Hosea. We never can know—and yet we continue to prophesy. The best we can do, of course, is to estimate probabilities. Probabilities! That is a good word. They have dropped it from the weather reports and call their estimate a "forecast." I like the old word better. Let us see, then, what some of the probabilities are in library work.

"Everything flows," said the Greek philosopher. Nothing in the world is stable; change is the order of the day. But note the word he uses. That which flows is in a state of orderly change in a definite direction. Everything progresses; and the library and its work are being borne along in the general current. Now the writers on hydro-dynamics, who are experts on flow, tell us that there are two ways of studying a current, which they name the "historical" and the "statistical": In the former the attention is fixed on a definite particle of the moving fluid whose change of velocity and direction is noted as it passes along; in the latter a definite locality of the stream is selected and the fluid's changes of form and density at that particular place are observed. In like manner we may study the library movement historically or we can select a definite point in its course—the present time—and note the conditions and their alteration. The latter plan, I venture to think, is the more favorable one for the would-be prophet.

Let us, then, take a few of the salient features of library work as they exist to-day and inquire: (1) What is the present situation with regard to each; (2) Is that situation changing; and whither and how fast; (3) Is its rate of change altering, and (4) are the conditions that affect it and its alteration, likely to remain as they are. If we can answer all these questions we can at least make an attempt at estimating the probable situation at a given future time. We must bear in mind, however, that in the

library world, as elsewhere, there are sudden or abrupt changes, or catastrophes, and that these generally defy prediction. And this is equally true of unexpected aids or beneficent influences. The library benefactions of Mr. Carnegie would have upset the most careful and logical estimate of library progress made twenty years ago.

First let us take up the status of our stock in trade—our supply of books. President Eliot warned us two years ago that our books are piling up too fast. His warning has met with scant heed because experience has not brought it home to most of us. Malthus warned us long ago that the progress of population was toward overcrowding the world. We laugh at him because there is still plenty of room and means of utilizing it unknown in his time. Yet population increases, and it will overcrowd the world some day unless something occurs to prevent. In like manner our stock of books increases faster and faster. The ordinary American public library is a thing of yesterday; small wonder that it does not yet begin to feel plethoric. Our oldest large libraries are those of our universities, and Harvard's president has told us that to them the evil day is within sight. Librarians have not received with favor President Eliot's plea for getting us out of our future difficulty, but this is neither here nor there. To judge by our present attitude either our library buildings must increase indefinitely in size or our stock must be weeded out. It must be remembered, however, that our books are perishable, and are growing more so. I do not regard this as an unmixed evil. Rather than to make our books unwieldy for the purpose of preserving them we prefer to make them usable and to rely on reprinting for their perpetuation. Thus what is not wanted will pass away. Perhaps this will solve our problem for us. But in any case it looks as if the future library building and its contents were to be greatly larger than those of to-day.

What are to be the style and arrangement of the future library building? The present situation can hardly be described in general

\* Read before Pennsylvania Library Club, Philadelphia, May 9, 1904.

terms. As in all building operations, there is a strife between the architect, representing aesthetics, and the administrator, representing utility. At present the architect seems to be having his way outside and the librarian his way inside. But why this contest? Is it not the architect's business to make utility more beautiful but not less useful? And should not the administrator wish his surroundings to please the eye? Apparently the two are drawing a little closer together of late. We are having fewer temples of art that have to be made over to fit them for use as libraries and fewer buildings that are workable but offensive to the eye. The tendency seems to be toward simple dignity, although we certainly have some surprising departures from it. Probably the library of the future will be a simple and massive structure of much greater size than at present, with its decorations largely structural, and combining ample open-shelf and reading facilities with greatly increased capacity for book-storage.

There is one particular in which the architect has been specially out of touch with the administrator. The open-shelf is now all but universal, but many architects seem not to have heard of it. Many buildings, actually intended for administration on the free access system, seem yet to have been planned as closed-shelf libraries and opened to the public as an afterthought. A library without a special stack-room for book-storage is an unthinkable thing to most architects. And yet in many small libraries book-storage is not necessary, and in most branch libraries, where only books in general use are to be placed, it will never be necessary. To get the maximum advantage from open shelves, with a minimum of risk, the books should be placed on the walls as far as possible and such book-cases as stand on the floor should be as low as an ordinary table, so as to be easily overseen. A stack-room, it seems to me, is distinctly a closed-shelf arrangement. I believe this is coming to be recognized and that in the future library the books will be on or near the walls.

But how about the open-shelf system itself? At present there are few libraries that do not have it in some form, and some of these are libraries that continued strongly to disapprove of it even after it had become well and widely established. The indications are nearly all that it has come to stay. I say

nearly all; for there is still a feeling among many people that it is not good administration to abandon so large a percentage of our books to thieves. In libraries in small communities where the loss is small, this question does not arise; but in New York, for instance, where we lost 5000 books last year, it is serious. We librarians may say and believe that the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages, but trustees and municipal authorities are hard to convince. In New York we have taken what many will consider a backward step, by partially closing, as an experiment, the shelves of two of our branches. So that although we may safely say that free access has come to stay, I do not look to see it applied very generally to large collections. One thing seems to me clear. Library administration is becoming increasingly business-like, and it is not business-like to accept a large annual loss without an attempt to minimize it. We must at least investigate regularly and rigidly the sources and character of this loss.

As for the other features that we have become accustomed to regard as distinguishing the new library era from the old—special work with children, co-operation with schools, travelling libraries, etc.—it is evident that these, too, have come to stay. Their spheres are widening and their aims are diversifying, however, so that he who should venture to predict their precise status in the future would be rash.

In fact, the library idea itself is beginning to suffer a sort of restless change that is quite distinct from its orderly progress. The activities of the library are at present a good deal like those of the *amœba*—stretching out a tentacle here, withdrawing one there; improvising a mouth and then turning it into a stomach; shifting and stretching about; somewhat vague and formless, yet instinct with life, appetite and action, and vitalized with at least the germ and promise of intelligence. Such a state is an unpromising one for prophecy. Is this or that new development of activity the beginning of an orderly march in a straight line, or is it to be withdrawn or reversed to-morrow? Is our work with children to include much that now seems to belong to the kindergarten, the museum, and the art gallery? Are our travelling library departments to sell books in the future as well as lend them? Are we

to deliver books free at our user's homes? Are our Boards of Education to turn over to us the superintendence of all such work as deals with books and their use? Many questions like these would have been answered in the affirmative yesterday but in the negative to-day. I might be inclined to say "yes" to some of them now, when to-morrow would prove them out of the question. But there is one assertion that we can make boldly. Whatever the library has tried to do or to be, whether success or failure has attended it, it has never ceased to be a library—a keeper and purveyor of books. Whatever else it may undertake, we may be sure that this will continue to be its chief reason for existence, and that its other activities, if such there be, will grow out of this and group themselves around it. Is the library to grow into a bookstore? I do not know, but if so its commercial functions are likely to be subsidiary. Certain libraries have already added to their duties as free institutions the functions of pay-libraries, and the commercial feature has thus been introduced. It seems to be spreading, and it may prove an entering wedge for a system of actual sales to supplement that of paid loans. A powerful deterrent, however, will be the influence of the book-trade. Following the line of least resistance, the activity of the library as an aid to the ownership as well as the reading of books is perhaps more likely to manifest itself in advice than in actual trade. Some libraries are now making special effort to give their readers information about book-prices, and about places and methods of purchase; and it seems likely that this kind of aid, since it can arouse no opposition, will increase.

The position in which we find ourselves, of opposition to those who make and sell books, is unfortunate. The situation has been growing more and more tense and it may continue so to grow, perhaps up to the point where all discount will be withheld from libraries and where new legislation may discourage importation, but I do not believe that it will keep on indefinitely. No one who looks into the matter closely can help believing that in the long run libraries advertise the book-trade and help it by promoting general interest in literature. This view of the matter was taken by a majority of the New York Booksellers' League at a recent dinner at which the question was discussed. Even purely as a

matter of business, the library deserves special privileges and it will doubtless continue in some measure to receive them.

It does not, however, seem probable that the average cost of books to a public library will ever be as low again as it was, say, ten years ago. In fact this may be said of all library expenses. Salaries are rising and ought to rise higher; our buildings are larger and finer and demand more expensive care. We are heating them with more costly apparatus and lighting them with electricity. The library of the future will doubtless cost more to maintain in every item than the library of the past—but the public will receive more than the difference.

As regards children's work there seem to be at present two tendencies—one toward complete isolation and one in the opposite direction. Will our grandchildren, when they go to the public library, be segregated in a separate room, perhaps in a separate building; or will they be treated as a distinct class only so far as may be absolutely necessary for good administration? Probably complete separation is best for the library and best for the adults; I hesitate to say that it is best for the children. After all, childhood is but a stage and not a resting stage at that—rather restless and progressive. Any special conditions that we provide for it must themselves be subject to constant change. In our schools the child passes from grade to grade. In our libraries the grades are only two; let us not make the leap from one to the other too great. I look to see special library work for children increase in importance, but with due recognition of the fact that some of the needs and aspirations of a "grown-up" are present in many a twelve-year-old and that it is better that the clothes of a growing child should be a size too large than an exact fit.

The travelling library deserves a special word, because its success is indicative of the tendency to bring the book and its user into closer contact. In New York we began, only seven years ago, to circulate a few hundred books monthly in this way among half a dozen schools. Now we give out nearly half a million a year from nearly 500 different points. We hear the same tale from all sides. And the cost of circulation per book is surprisingly small. In New York the circulation through travelling libraries is equal to that of three branches of the first class, while the number



of assistants employed is about half the number required in one of those branches. The cost of operating three large branches in Carnegie buildings is about \$40,000 yearly, whereas our travelling libraries for the last fiscal year cost us but \$6400. Of course it must be remembered that a very large amount of the work of circulation in this case is done by volunteer assistants and that the users of the books have not the facilities and resources of a branch library—the number and variety of books, the pleasant surroundings, the trained aid. Of course the travelling library can never take the place of the fully equipped branch, but in supplementing branch work and in reaching those who live in sparsely settled communities its capabilities are great and it may be expected that its use will increase.

The broadening of library work illustrated by the successive appearance of the reference library, the circulating library, the delivery station, the branch and the travelling library suggests the thought that this series may be carried further in the future by the addition of some working plan that will bring the book still closer to its user. Such a plan would be the system in which books are delivered free of charge at the houses of those who use them, or the provision of a real library on wheels—a van supplied with shelving for a thousand books or more from which selection can be made as it moves about from house to house. It does not seem probable that any such device as this will be generally adopted for districts adequately provided with regular libraries, but for thinly settled regions they may supplement or take the place of our present travelling or home libraries. I believe for instance, that a moving library of 1000 books, calling once a week at each house in a farming district would be preferable to four travelling libraries of 250 books each, stationed at points in the same district, although, of course, the cost would be correspondingly greater.

The library's status as an educational institution seems now to be well established. No one disputes it, and as this appears to be the chief ground on which its support by public funds is justified we may regard it as settled that the library is to continue to play its part in public instruction. This part, though not so definite and positive as that of the school, extends over a far longer period. While the library's work is parallel and sup-

plementary to that of the school in the case of those of school age, it must continue its work alone after its users have left school. Here it may settle its methods for itself, but in its earlier work when it deals with pupils, it has the teacher to reckon with. The necessity for constant consultation and co-operation between the authorities of two public institutions, whose work is so similar and can so easily result in wasteful duplication or still more wasteful conflict, is obvious. We need not be surprised that librarians and teachers are getting nearer together and we may confidently predict that the *rapprochement* will be closer in the future. But although the school is ceasing to look upon its younger sister as an interloper in the pedagogical family, there is still plenty of room for the definition of their respective spheres. And we have no right to complain that the school is still doing much library work, when we have ourselves sometimes tried to do school work. I look in the future for the definition of two clearly separated spheres of activity, one filled by the library and the other by the school, and for the closest co-operation between the two that is consistent with confining each to its own work. It is probably too much to expect that the school will give up the custodianship of books. It must at least control its own text books, and its collection of reference works should be complete enough to constitute a thorough guide and aid to proper study. But the distribution of supplementary reading should be the part of the public library. This and other related points are to be settled, if at all, in the future by two kinds of mutual understandings; namely, between the governing boards of library and school and between librarian and teacher. The due definition of spheres of work can come only from an official agreement between library board and school board; helpful aid on both sides can come only from personal contact and acquaintance between teachers and library assistants—such a degree of acquaintance that each comes to have a practical knowledge of the other's problems, trials and limitations. Most librarians have made more or less effort in this direction; some have met with distinguished success. We may safely predict further progress along this line.

The lessons of the past and of the present all point to the increasing use of the library as a great engine of popular education, using



the noun in its broadest sense and emphasizing the adjective. The library is more and more a great humanizing influence; if this is so, nothing human must be alien to it. And much that is human and humanizing is nevertheless ephemeral. With some the implications of this word are wholly contemptuous. Of a day! Does nothing valuable pass quickly away, having done its little work? The day itself is a day only and vanishes with the evening and the morning; yet it has its part in the record of the years. So with "ephemeral" literature. As we have seen, a great deal of what we are wont to consider as standard and permanent will ultimately perish. Yet be its life that of a year or a century, a book may play its little part in the mental development of those who read it. Just at present the favorite vehicle of literary expression is fiction. People put into stories what they have to say of history, sociology and ethics; they embody in romance their theories of æsthetics, economics and politics. There is good doctrine with a poor literary setting and there are paste jewels in pure gold. But taking it by and large the much decried deluge of modern fiction has undoubtedly been educative in its tendency. This is why I cannot yield to logic and predict the gradual disappearance of all but a small residuum of fiction from the public library. There is a tendency in that direction but there are some signs of a reaction. The seer may hope, even if he dare not predict, that the great public library that can afford to do so will continue to purchase such fiction as will interest or entertain the average person of education, even if it is to stay on the shelves but a few months.

What will be the future distribution of libraries in this country? At present their numbers are large in the northern states and comparatively small in the southern. Growth has been unexampled in its rapidity and has been stimulated by large benefactions. So far as this growth may be looked upon as the direct result of Mr. Carnegie's gifts it may doubtless be regarded as abnormal, although it should be noted that every Carnegie building means a present and future outlay on the part of the community in which it stands, of many times the amount given by the donor. Primarily, library expansion is the result of a popular conviction that the public library is a

public necessity. Expansion has proceeded in proportion to the spread of that conviction and along the lines of its progress. If there are fewer public libraries in the South than in the North it is because the need for them is not felt there, even if it exists. Doubtless the race problem is a powerful inhibitory influence. Two things are certain: that library expansion is to go on for some time, and that a time will come when it must stop. When that time arrives, the library will have attained its majority and we shall have an opportunity to address ourselves to problems that can not be attended to during our period of growth.

Who will use our great library of the future? Who uses the library of to-day? I have been asked that question by reporters and have been puzzled to answer it. For whose use is the public library intended? It will be logical to answer "the Public, of course," but there are a great many people who will give this answer with mental reservations. With them "the Public" means some particular part of the public. Some think that the libraries are for the poor, or at any rate for those who cannot afford to buy books for themselves. This is a survival of the origin of some of our circulating libraries, which were originally charities. But a public foundation and a charitable foundation are two different things. Our parks are free, yet we do not object to their free use by the wealthy, nor do the wealthy classes themselves seem to shrink from it. Some again would limit the use of a library to students, or at all events to those who do not care to withdraw books for home use. These are people who do not believe in the circulating library — and there are still such. Others again would have the public library cater only to those of educated literary taste. For these reasons and for others it is a fact that our public libraries, even those with the largest circulations, are not used by the entire public. Probably, however, they are being used more and more freely. In a library that uses the two-book system it is impossible to tell exactly from statistics, how many persons are drawing from the library at one time. Assuming, however, that the number is proportional to the number of books outstanding, we find in the New York Public Library that it has been increasing a

little faster of late years than the circulation. In other words, individual reading has not increased, and the great recent increase of circulation in our library, and presumably in others also, is due to an increase of readers. The size of the library's public is therefore increasing and there is no reason to suppose that it will not continue to do so. Of course there must be a limit. For instance, certain sections of the public will not use a library — as they will not use a school — in conjunction with other sections. This may be because of social or racial feeling, or personal uncleanness or offensiveness, even when the latter is not carried to the point where the librarian can properly object to it. In such cases the lower element will drive out the higher. The remedy seems to be sought in segregation. This may be either open and acknowledged as in those southern cities where the library has a separate department for colored people, or it may be virtual, as where a convenient lounging room with newspapers is provided for the tramp element, sometimes with the privilege of smoking. In large cities the branch library system acts in the same way. The character of the card-holders is determined by that of the surrounding district and we thus get practically separate libraries for separate sections of the community. I look to see this separation proceed to a somewhat greater degree, not perhaps systematically but automatically and almost involuntarily. In spite of the apparent concession to class feeling, it will certainly increase the aggregate use of the library and thus make it more truly a public institution. So far as the branch system is concerned, of course, this is only one of the ways in which it increases the size of the library's public. Even in a section where the population is perfectly homogeneous, more people will always be served by two libraries than by one. The number of branch library systems is rapidly increasing and the prospects are that the greatest possible use is to be made of them in the future. And they will be made up of true branches. Delivery stations have their uses, but they can never take the place of buildings with permanent stocks of books and all the conveniences of a separate library. Where a branch building is also a delivery station, as it always should be, that is, where the users of a branch are allowed to draw on the stock of the Central

Library or of the other branches, it is found that the branch use vastly exceeds the station use. In our own library a branch that circulates 500 to 1000 of its own books daily will give out only two or three from other branches. This is sufficiently indicative of the preferences of the public, and in a matter of this kind public preference will ultimately govern. These branch libraries will have limited stocks of books, mostly, though not entirely, on open shelves, and will include small reference collections which will be more important as the branch is farther removed from the central library. These predictions, it seems to me, are all warranted by present tendencies.

How will the future library be governed and administered? The governing body at present is almost universally a board of trustees who are men of standing and responsibility but usually without expert knowledge. These are sometimes semi-independent and sometimes under the direct control of their municipal government. The present tendency seems to be to minimize municipal control but to increase the number of governing bodies subject to it. In other words private libraries are doing more public work than formerly under contract with municipalities, becoming thereby subject to the control of the city or town but not so closely as to bring politics into the management. This state of things is so desirable that we may expect it to be multiplied in the future. As regards the lay or inexperienced character of the governing board, though it is looked upon by some as objectionable, it is shared by the library with great numbers of other public or semi-public institutions. Such a board may be regarded as representative of the great lay public, on whose behalf the institution must be operated, and whose members are interested in results rather than in the special methods by which these results may be obtained. That the members of such a board should be mere figure-heads is certainly not to be desired; that they should, either as individuals or collectively, take part in the details of administration is equally undesirable. There are boards that are doing the one or the other of these things, but the tendency is to lean neither in the direction of laxity nor of undue interference — to require definite results and to hold the librarian strictly responsible for the attain-

ment of those results, leaving him to employ his own methods.

And the librarian of the future; who and what will he be? The difference between the modern librarian and him of the old school has often been the subject of comment. The librarian nowadays is less the scholar and more the man of affairs. Is change to go on in this direction? There are rather, it seems to me, signs of a reaction. Perhaps reaction is hardly the word. The librarian, while keeping in touch with the times, is reaching back for a little of the spirit of the old-time custodian and incorporating it with his own. Is it too much to hope that the heads of our future libraries, while keeping in the forefront of library progress, alert to appreciate the popular need and to respond to it, may yet have something of the sweet and gentle spirit of the old scholars who used to preside over our storehouses of books?

Who are to be the assistants in our library of the future? At present our staffs are recruited from the following sources:

(1) The library schools. The best of these have supplied chiefly the heads of the smaller libraries, and heads of departments or assistants of the higher grades in the larger libraries. Few heads of the large libraries are school-graduates and few lower-grade assistants. There are, however, schools of the second class whose graduates have gone into the lower grades both in small and in large institutions.

(2) Apprentice classes, generally formed to instruct untrained persons in the work of a particular library, so that those who enter its lower grades may be at least partially fitted for their work. The best of these rise by promotion to the upper grades.

(3) Appointment of totally untrained persons. If such persons are thoroughly well educated they may enter the work in the higher grades or even as the heads of libraries. If not they generally enter at the bottom, although of course some obtain higher positions through political or local influence.

This, I believe, states the situation fairly. What are the tendencies? There can be no doubt that the library school is growing in favor. The increasing numbers of those who apply for school courses, the raising of requirements, both for entrance and for gradua-

tion, the second class schools that have sprung up in imitation of those of higher grade, making necessary the appointment of committees by various library bodies to examine and report on them—all point in this direction. At the same time we have had numerous instances, of late, of the selection of non-graduates to fill high library positions and at least one instance of frank statement on the part of a librarian of acknowledged eminence, in favor of taking college men of ability into the library immediately on graduation, instead of putting them through a library school. The library schools aim, and very properly so, at occupying the same position toward the library profession that the medical and law schools do toward the medical and legal professions. Statistics show that they have not yet reached that position. Still, it is probable that they will continue to approximate to it as a limit. In the future, more and more of the higher library positions will doubtless be filled by library-school graduates—and so also will more of the lower positions. When the demand for assistants in the higher grades begins to slacken, proportionately to the supply, as it is sure to do some day, the library school graduates will be willing to enter the library force in a lower grade, and will thus crowd out the untrained or partially trained applicants to some extent. They may even make the apprentice class a superfluity, in which case I am sure librarians will abandon it without a sigh.

In these somewhat desultory forecasts the object of the prophet has been not so much to impress upon others his own beliefs as to stimulate a taste for prophecy—a desire to glance over the rail and see which way the current is setting. Without being fatalists, we may hold that there are certain great tendencies in human affairs, vast social currents, against which it is well-nigh hopeless to struggle. Those who desire to accomplish results must work with these currents, not against them. Success has almost always been won in this way. Even when a few bold spirits have seemed to stem and turn back the whole tide, it will generally be found that an unseen undercurrent was in their favor. Learn therefore to judge of the currents; so shall we avoid the rocks and shoals and bring our craft safely to port.

## THE ESSENTIALS OF A LIBRARY TRUSTEE.\*

BY SAMUEL G. LEASK, *Trustee Santa Cruz (Cal.) Public Library.*

THE selection of fit men for public service is one of the most difficult tasks that falls to the lot of the citizen, or of the elected officers on whom the appointing power is conferred. The problem of government is virtually this problem of selecting men who are fit to govern. "The finding of your Ableman," said Carlyle, "and getting him invested with the symbols of ability, so that he may have room to guide according to his faculty of doing it — this is the business, well or ill performed, of all social procedure whatsoever in this world!" The hereditary claim to office has been completely discredited, but it cannot be said that any system which the ingenuity of man so far has devised to take its place can fairly be called a success. We have daily before us in state and nation the spectacle of men occupying places which they cannot fill. No method of selection has yet been evolved that insures public office to those best fitted to perform public service, and the laudable efforts of zealous citizens to bring to the office the man most competent to discharge its duties have been attended with a degree of success that is lamentably partial and incomplete. Granting all this, and conceding the impossibility in practice of securing for the service of the public those best qualified to do its work, it may yet not be entirely idle to outline the qualifications which should determine selection for a given office.

Assuming that for public service of any kind, public spirit and personal honesty are indispensable, we proceed to consider what special qualities are needed in a library trustee. The duties of such trustees are plainly stated in the library statutes, and are so well known that they need not be enumerated here. They involve the expenditure of public money for library purposes and the control of all matters connected with building and maintaining libraries, and conducting library work.

The first qualification which suggests itself

for a person charged with these duties would be a conviction that a public library is a good thing. In every community a certain proportion of the people are either entirely opposed to the library as a public institution, or regard it with an indifference that is only less deadly than active opposition. People opposed to the public library or indifferent to its work have no place on a board of library trustees, and officers appointing trustees of that class are guilty of treason to an institution committed to their charge. A man's usefulness as a trustee may bear no relation to the fervor of his faith in the value of the library to the community, but without such faith the performance of good library work will languish, and the duties of the office will be discharged, as Elbert Hubbard would say, "perfunk." This perfunctory spirit is one of the most contagious diseases on earth, and if the librarian escapes infection from a board afflicted with it, the ardor of his or her enthusiasm is something for which the community should be thankful. In most cases a wet blanket of indifference in the hands of a board will smother every spark of life throughout the institution.

Given then a public spirited and honest trustee, who believes that a public library is a good thing for the community, the next qualification would seem to be ability to select a competent and suitable librarian. This is the most important, and in many cases the most difficult duty that a board can be called upon to perform. Upon the fitness of the librarian for his or her work more of the success of the library depends than on anything else connected with the institution that the trustees have power to control. It is impossible to overestimate the importance to a library of a good librarian. A library is no longer a place where books are merely stored. It has come to be a place where they are used, and in very many cases, used under the direction of a librarian. When one considers what is demanded of this officer, the varied information regarding books, authors

\* Read before the Library Association of California, Sept. 3, 1904.

and subjects that has to be kept as it were "on tap," the patience that has to suffer long and continue kind, the cheerfulness that refuses to show discouragement, the capacity for housekeeping and mending and keeping records, not to speak of the ability to instruct trustees in matters necessary for them to know, which they have no opportunity to find out for themselves, the wonder is, not that once in a while there is a librarian who is a misfit, but that so many perform their duties with so much credit to themselves and benefit to the public. The ability to select from among many applicants the person who will do this kind of library work well implies certain qualities on the part of the trustees. They must have a capacity for withstanding pressure, and a knowledge of human nature which can only come as a result of experience in the school of life, where we are all pupils with varying degrees of aptitude. Mr. Carnegie said some time ago that he wanted his friends to inscribe on his tombstone something like this: "Here lies a man who knew how to take advantage of other men's abilities." In that great art he has been a past master, and it is essentially the same art that all of us have to practice when the work for which we are responsible has to be delegated to another. The person who assumes that anybody can do pretty nearly anything, who refuses to attach importance to special aptitudes, special training and special gifts of nature, such a person will inevitably fail to succeed so far as his or her success depends on the assistance of others.

Capacity to discriminate between candidates who are fit and those who are not fit is one of the most essential of a trustee's qualifications. I do not pretend to say how you can tell whether or not a man *has* this gift, I only say he *should* have it. The trustees select the librarian and the librarian practically runs the library. Upon his or her ability and enthusiasm and industry, the usefulness of the institution almost entirely depends. To allow considerations of personal or political friendship or other unworthy or irrelevant motives to determine the selection of this officer, is a species of prostitution. The men chosen as trustees should, in every case, be weighed as to what motives will be likely to determine their action in making appoint-

ments, and no person who is likely to lose sight of the public good in this matter should be disturbed in the enjoyment of his private ease by a call to the duties of office.

The ability to select a competent librarian implies on the part of a trustee, ability to see the necessity for dismissal of one when such necessity exists. This must always be a painful duty, liable in its performance to misconstruction and misrepresentation. But when a community is not receiving from its library the benefit to which it is entitled because of the indifference, indolence or intemperance of the librarian, then the trustees who fail to remove the incompetent officer, and place in charge a person qualified to give the public good service in return for its money, are not fit to hold office and should be replaced by men of stronger fibre. A tendency to drift along in the line of least resistance is strong in most of us. Officers who perhaps have served for many years and who, it may be, are backed by powerful interests are apt to be allowed to remain undisturbed, notwithstanding daily evidence of incompetence or neglect of duty. The easy going trustee under such circumstances is strongly tempted to counsel "peace, peace," and make the best of a bad business. But there are times when peace spells cowardice—moral cowardice, which is the most dangerous variety of that quality. A library trustee should not be a moral coward, but should apply to those employed in the library the same tests as to fitness that are applied by careful employers in private business, and employees found to be unfit should be dispensed with, just as private employers dispense with those who have ceased to give satisfactory service. A man who is too weak or too amiable to do this part of a library trustee's duty lacks most important essentials for that office.

A library trustee, like all who have to work in conjunction with others, should be a man who can co-operate. Men with minds that have been waterproofed, or who, like Deacon Smith's mule, are "dreadful sot in their ways," may have their place and purpose in the scheme of things, but that place is not on a library board. We all of us know men of ability and force of character who are unable to see any good in a suggestion that



does not emanate from themselves. On the other hand, they seem to be unable to let go of an idea that originated in their own minds, and often hold on to it till by sheer persistence opposition is worn out. Men of this type are a nuisance and a danger on library or other boards, as their presence usually results in a one-man rule, other members becoming indifferent and neglecting the duties of their office from a sense of inability to exert the influence to which they feel they are entitled. This condition of affairs is always a misfortune, and one forceful and stubborn trustee whose mind is swayed by whim and prejudice will do much to interfere with the hearty and harmonious feeling that is essential to a library's highest usefulness.

A trustee of the right type will treat the librarian in such a manner that she will not be afraid to be perfectly frank with him on any matter connected with library affairs. The librarian should feel at liberty to comment freely on the policy of the library board, on the principle laid down by Arthur Helps, "that those entrusted with the execution of any work are likely to see things which have been overlooked by the persons who designed it, however sagacious they may be." Let our trustee therefore be one to whom fellow trustees, the librarian or the humblest patron of the library can offer a suggestion or a criticism, knowing that it will be received in a friendly spirit and carefully considered.

A board of library trustees is charged with the work of expending the money appropriated for library purposes, and this necessitates on every board the presence of men who know how to figure. In nearly all cases the financial problem is an important one, and unless in the composition of the board care has been taken to insure the presence on it of members who are qualified to foresee and provide for the necessary expenditure, trouble and annoyance will be inevitable. This suggests another important essential of a trustee, namely, that he should be in close touch with the governing body of his city, so that his plea for adequate support for the library may be made to friendly ears. A man who is constitutionally antagonistic, who can criticise and condemn much more naturally and heartily than he can give a word of praise or appreciation, will not do such

good work for a library in this respect as a person of more genial disposition, and I should say that on every board there should be two or more trustees, who possess financial ability and are characterized by a spirit of comprehensive friendliness.

A question that now suggests itself is as to what extent it is essential that a library trustee should possess literary tastes or acquirements. Many of you will admit that there are excellent trustees who have neither one nor the other, and many more will testify that they know so-called literary people who make very poor trustees. We all know how frequently "knowledge comes and wisdom lingers." The truth of the matter would seem to be that *other things being equal*, a person with a knowledge of books will make a better trustee than one without such knowledge. But you will note that other things must be equal, and I cannot help thinking that a knowledge of books can be dispensed with much more easily than many of the other things. Charles Lamb divided books into two classes, namely, "Books" and "Books which are no books" but "Things in books' clothing." Under the latter head he included not only Court Calendars, Directories, Pocket Books and Draught Boards lettered on the back, but also Scientific Treatises, Statutes at Large, the works of Hume, Gibbon, "that learned Jew" Flavius Josephus, and Paley's "Moral philosophy." You will notice that the genial essayist denies even the name of books to works in which he is not interested. Now a man whose taste is more "catholic and unexclusive," and who can read almost anything, including some of Lamb's books, "that are no books, but things in books' clothing," would be valuable on any library board, providing much learning had not made him mad. But sane men whose tastes run in this direction are seldom available for public work of any kind—they are too busily engrossed following up their reading. And the danger with readers whose tastes are exclusive is that they will attach too much importance to the subjects in which they are especially interested. The man who, like Dr. Johnson, could be got out of bed two hours before his regular time to read Burton's "Anatomy of melancholy," would be apt to make sad work of selecting reading matter for a public li-



brary. Men who live habitually with the great masters of literature, Homer, Dante, Milton, Shakespeare and the rest must inevitably become unfitted to sympathize with or understand the demands and needs of the public with which the average trustee of a California library has to deal.

You remember with what contempt Matthew Arnold stated twenty years ago that he understood the western states of America were being fed on the works of "a native author named Roe"—a man who wrote books which probably to the great Englishman were not books at all, but "things in books' clothing." It is rare that a man cultured, as Arnold was, out of sympathy with the great body of the people, can understand their point of view or provide for their needs. He is usually so intent on trying to set them right or make them over that supplying what they demand is not likely to be regarded as in the line of duty. "How beautiful," says Lamb, "to the genuine lover of reading, are the sullied leaves and worn out appearance of an old library 'Tom Jones' or 'Vicar of Wakefield.' How they speak of the thousand thumbs that have turned their pages with delight! Of the lone sempstress whom they have cheered after her long day's needle toil, when she has snatched an hour, ill spared from sleep, to steep her cares, as in some lethean cup, in spelling out their enchanting contents!" To this class of readers a library trustee should not be indifferent. What Fielding and Goldsmith did for the tired women of Lamb's day, native authors named Roe and Wallace and Wilkins and Wister, are doing for millions who in our own time still bear heavy burdens and are weary. In providing for them there is, I contend, an important and legitimate field for the public library to which a distinctively literary trustee, with his "superior" ideas, is apt to be indifferent, and I for one would prefer to take my chances of satisfactory library service with trustees of ordinary intelligence and public spirit who are more distinguished for their understanding of the condition and characteristics of their fellow men than for extraordinary literary attainments.

Let me conclude by briefly recapitulating the essentials of a library trustee that have been considered. I may mention here that

while most of the personal pronouns referring to trustees have been masculine, I do not regard it as essential that a library trustee should be a man. I understand that some librarians do, and I suppose they have their reasons. But I would ask them before condemning the shortcomings and limitations of women on library boards to remember the great truth enunciated by Mrs. Poyser when she said, "God Almighty made 'em to match the men." It may be safely said that the perfect library trustee, male or female, is like the perfect husband in one respect—he does not exist. But as has been wisely said "we must not measure by a scale of perfection the meagre product of reality." And when in the course of time the perfect trustee is evolved, it will be found that he is always public spirited and willing to sacrifice time and expend effort for the public good. He will be heartily honest in his library work, and he will believe that a public library is a good thing. He will have experience in dealing with men and women that will enable him to select people for library work who are qualified to render good service, and when they cease to render good service he will not lack courage to do his duty and declare their places vacant. He will be a person who can co-operate heartily and cheerfully with others in library work, treating the librarian as his trusted friend and adviser, welcoming at all times from that quarter criticisms and suggestions, though not always acting on them. He will know how to deal with figures, and be capable of arranging matters so that expenditure will never exceed income. He will not turn up his nose at politics and politicians, but will use in an honorable way his influence with them for the support of the institution committed to his charge. He may not be a profound student nor a great scholar, nor be cultivated out of all sympathy with his fellow citizens and their affairs, but he will know something of books and their authors, and know a great deal about the tastes and capacities of his neighbors who read them. If with all this our trustee has a clear head over a heart that is not cold, and a touch of philanthropic zeal, tempered by the calm of a practical philosopher, we may rest assured that the library with which he is connected will do fairly well.

SCHEME OF CLASSIFICATION OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS  
OF ARTS AND SCIENCE  
AT ST. LOUIS.

DIVISION A—NORMATIVE SCIENCE.

- Department 1—Philosophy.*  
Section a.—Metaphysics.  
" b.—Philosophy of Religion.  
" c.—Logic.  
" d.—Methodology.  
" e.—Ethics.  
" f.—Aesthetics.  
*Department 2—Mathematics.*  
Section a.—Algebra and Analysis.  
" b.—Geometry.  
" c.—Applied Mathematics.

DIVISION B—HISTORICAL SCIENCE.

- Department 3—Political and Economic History.*  
Section a.—History of Asia.  
" b.—History of Greece and Rome.  
" c.—Mediaeval History.  
" d.—Modern History of Europe.  
" e.—History of America.  
" f.—History of Economic Institutions.  
*Department 4—History of Law.*  
Section a.—History of Roman Law.  
" b.—History of Common Law.  
" c.—Comparative Law.  
*Department 5—History of Languages.*  
Section a.—Comparative Language.  
" b.—Semitic Language.  
" c.—Indo-Iranian Languages.  
" d.—Greek.  
" e.—Latin.  
" f.—English.  
" g.—Romance Languages.  
" h.—Germanic Languages.  
*Department 6—History of Literature.*  
Section a.—Indo-Iranian Literature.  
" b.—Classical Literature.  
" c.—English Literature.  
" d.—Romance Literature.  
" e.—Germanic Literature.  
" f.—Slavic Literature.  
" g.—Belles Lettres.  
*Department 7—History of Art.*  
Section a.—Classical Art.  
" b.—Modern Architecture.  
" c.—Modern Painting.  
*Department 8—History of Religion.*  
Section a.—Brahminism and Buddhism.  
" b.—Mohammedism.  
" c.—Old Testament.  
" d.—New Testament.  
" e.—History of the Christian Church.

DIVISION C—PHYSICAL SCIENCE.

- Department 9—Physics.*  
Section a.—Physics of Matter.  
" b.—Physics of Ether.  
" c.—Physics of the Electron.  
*Department 10—Chemistry.*  
Section a.—Inorganic Chemistry.  
" b.—Organic Chemistry.  
" c.—Physical Chemistry.  
" d.—Physiological Chemistry.  
*Department 11—Astronomy.*  
Section a.—Astrometry.  
" b.—Astrophysics.  
*Department 12—Sciences of the Earth.*  
Section a.—Geo-Physics.  
" b.—Geology.  
" c.—Paleontology.  
" d.—Petrology and Mineralogy.  
" e.—Physiography.  
" f.—Geography.  
" g.—Oceanography.  
" h.—Meteorology.  
*Department 13—Biology.*  
Section a.—Phylogeny.  
" b.—Plant Morphology.  
" c.—Plant Physiology.

*Department 13—Biology.—Continued.*

- Section d.—Plant Pathology.  
" e.—Ecology.  
" f.—Bacteriology.  
" g.—Animal Morphology.  
" h.—Embryology.  
" i.—Comparative Anatomy.  
" j.—Human Anatomy.  
" k.—Physiology.  
*Department 14—Anthropology.*  
Section a.—Somatology.  
" b.—Archæology.  
" c.—Ethnology.

DIVISION D—MENTAL SCIENCE.

- Department 15—Psychology.*  
Section a.—General Psychology.  
" b.—Experimental Psychology.  
" c.—Comparative and Genetic Psychology.  
" d.—Abnormal Psychology.  
*Department 16—Sociology.*  
Section a.—Demography.  
" b.—Social Structure.  
" c.—Social Psychology.

DIVISION E—UTILITARIAN SCIENCES.

- Department 17—Medicine.*  
Section a.—Public Health.  
" b.—Preventive Medicine.  
" c.—Pathology.  
" d.—Therapeutics and Pharmacology.  
" e.—Internal Medicine.  
" f.—Neurology.  
" g.—Psychiatry.  
" h.—Surgery.  
" i.—Gynecology.  
" j.—Ophthalmology.  
" k.—Otolary and Laryngology.  
" l.—Pediatrics.  
*Department 18—Technology.*  
Section a.—Civil Engineering.  
" b.—Mechanical Engineering.  
" c.—Electrical Engineering.  
" d.—Mining Engineering.  
" e.—Technical Chemistry.  
" f.—Agriculture.

*Department 19—Economics.*

- Section a.—Economic Theory.  
" b.—Industrial Organization and Manufactures.  
" c.—Transportation.  
" d.—Commerce and Exchange.  
" e.—Money and Credit.  
" f.—Public Finance.  
" g.—Insurance.

DIVISION F—SOCIAL REGULATION.

- Department 20—Politics.*  
Section a.—Political Theory.  
" b.—Diplomacy.  
" c.—National Administration.  
" d.—Colonial Administration.  
" e.—Municipal Administration.  
*Department 21—Jurisprudence.*  
Section a.—International Law.  
" b.—Constitutional Law.  
" c.—Criminal Law.  
" d.—Private Law.  
*Department 22—Social Science.*  
Section a.—The Family.  
" b.—The Rural Community.  
" c.—The Urban Community.  
" d.—The Industrial Group.  
" e.—The Dependent Group.  
" f.—The Criminal Group.

DIVISION G—SOCIAL CULTURE.

- Department 23—Education.*  
Section a.—Educational Theory.  
" b.—The School.  
" c.—The College.  
" d.—The University.  
" e.—The Library.  
*Department 24—Religion.*  
Section a.—General Religious Education.  
" b.—Professional Religious Education.  
" c.—Religious Agencies.  
" d.—Religious Work.  
" e.—Religious Influence, Personal.  
" f.—Religious Influence, Social.

This outline of subjects, regarded as a classification of the sciences, needs to be interpreted in the words of one of its sponsors:

"Nor is it important whether the scheme of classification is or is not ideally a good one. The main object was to obtain a grouping of the subjects and speakers which would have sufficient logical symmetry to enable the whole scheme to be understood and carried into practical execution. These ends have been attained, and having been attained the discussion of the logical merits and demerits of the scheme may be left to those interested."<sup>\*</sup>

The scheme is thus practical and utilitarian rather than scientific. Assured as we are that it serves its specific end well, it must be said unhesitatingly that it is a good scheme—for that end. "Discussion of the logical merits and demerits" is in fact irrelevant, save as it bears on the "main object," but the explanation challenges the question whether something ideally more logical would not have served the main object as well or better and served minor objects also. In this case two general questions suggest themselves at once. Why should this superb effort to set forth the best results of all the sciences be itself professedly unscientific? Why again since the subjects or sciences form precisely the same practical problem for the directors that the groups of books do for the librarian should not the scheme most practical for such a congress be one more suited to library classification? One would naturally suppose that the main object of the congress being to exhibit the high water mark of achievement in each science, it would try through the disposition of the subjects with reference to one another to express the best results of the "science of the whole." And after all perhaps it has unconsciously done this pretty well. In spite of the magic word "Evolution" the matter of the co-ordination of the sciences is a good deal of a chaos, and there is little real consensus among scientific men even as regards the sub-human sciences, as the scientists found over the International Catalogue. If it is the business of a world's exposition to set forth things as they are at the present time, whether manufactures of metal or of ideas, then this no doubt represents the unco-ordinated state of things among the sciences better than an attempt at a strict scheme on any principle, and it was actually better to leave the task of logical classification to the sections of Logic or Methodology.

But granting that the scheme is practical

rather than scientific, it is permitted to doubt whether it might not have been made still more practical by more critical attention to its logical symmetry. It is not easy, *e.g.*, to see why it should be practical to have History of Law under 3 and Jurisprudence under 21 or to have Philosophy of religion under 1b, History of religion under 8, and "Religion" under 24, as one of the two divisions of social culture. Professor Newcomb himself speaks, in his apology, of the novelty of putting mathematics with Philosophy rather than with Physics, saying, "It would also have been logically misleading if the organizers had at the present time placed mathematics among the Physical sciences, etc." It is certainly true that we are getting used to the highly theoretical idea that pure mathematics belongs with philosophy, but why care about the logic anyway! Practically speaking mathematics is more often grouped, whether in books or in men's minds, with Physics, Astronomy or Technology and among those who will listen to the papers, there will be ten physicists to one philosopher who can listen intelligently to a paper on a pure mathematical problem. It would seem superficially to be more practical to transpose the whole group of Historical science beyond Physical science, thus leaving Mathematics as neighbor, and at the same time closing up the gap which the sub-human sciences now make between Historical science and the other humane sciences. History is properly not a science but a method used in all sciences. History as "History" *par excellence* is simply the history of the human race and belongs with Mental science, Social regulation, Social culture, etc.—though for that matter so do also Logic, Methodology, Ethics and Aesthetics. With this transposition all the sciences relating to man, physical and mental, in his relations with things lower in the scale of evolution, with his fellow men and with higher things, have been brought together—in something of a muddle to be sure, but yet together practically, without any imaginable working loss. It would also probably be true that a slight re-distribution of the main subdivisions of History among those of the other individual and social sciences would be both a logical and a practical gain.

When all has been said, the scheme, although not very good for a man to organize thoughts by or for a librarian to organize his books by, is valuable for study because it is a defining and grouping of the sciences now in vogue as they are now named and studied. It is "Science as she is studied," and if it reminds a bit of that little classic, "English as she is spoke," it is no harm; in science all men are foreigners and strangers to the niceties of final exactness of knowledge.

E. C. RICHARDSON,  
Princeton University Library.

\* Newcomb, Simon, The coming International Congress of Arts and Science at St. Louis, Sept. 19-24. (*In Popular Science Monthly*, Sept., 1904, p. 466-473.)

LIBRARY SECTION, ST. LOUIS INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ARTS AND SCIENCE.\*

THE meeting of the Library Section of the Department of Education of the International Congress of Arts and Science, was held at the World's Fair in St. Louis on the afternoon of September 22, 1904.

Notwithstanding the competition of several other speakers of note who were making addresses at the same hour at meetings of various other sections of the Congress, among them James Bryce, probably the best known and most popular among the distinguished men attending the Congress, the hall in which the meeting of the Library Section was held was well filled and the papers of the three speakers were received with close attention and apparent interest.

The introductory paper by the chairman, Frederick M. Crunden, librarian of the St. Louis Public Library, entitled "The library, a plea for its recognition," was a general and comprehensive argument for the library as one of the greatest factors in human progress, "itself the record of civilization, and without it there can be no records and no civilization. It is the repository, the custodian, the preserver of all the arts and sciences, and the principal means of disseminating all knowledge. With the school and church it forms the tripod necessary to the stable equilibrium of society."

Mr. Crunden then introduced Professor Guido Biagi, librarian of the Royal Library at Florence, and of international fame. His paper, entitled "The library, its past and future," was given in eloquent English and with great ease and grace of delivery. It merited and received the attention and applause of a pleased audience, appreciative of the wit and humor that enlivened the address. In his anticipations of the future of the library, Professor Biagi voiced the opinion of all interested in library matters when he dwelt upon the results to be obtained from co-operation and interchange, and the photographic reproduction of famous books and scrolls, all movements already under way. But some of his hearers were taken by surprise when he predicted the use of the graphophone in the library of the future. He said: "There will be few readers, but an infinite number of hearers, who will listen from their own homes to the spoken paper, to the spoken book. University students will listen to their lectures while they lie in bed, and, as now with us, will not know their professors even by sight. Writing will be a lost art. Professors of paleography and keepers of manuscripts will perhaps have to learn to accustom their eye to the ancient alphabets. Autographs will be as

rare as palimpsests are now. Books will no longer be read, they will be listened to; and then only will be fulfilled Mark Pattison's famous saying, 'The librarian who reads is lost.'

"But even if the graphophone does not produce so profound a transformation as to cause the alphabet to become extinct and effect an injury to culture itself; even if, as we hope will be the case, the book retains its place of honor, and instruction through the eyes be not replaced by that through the ears (in which case printed books would be kept for the exclusive benefit of the deaf); still these discs, now so much derided, will form a very large part of the future library. The art of oratory, of drama, of music and of poetry, the study of languages, the present pronunciation of languages and dialects, will find faithful means of reproduction in these humble discs. Imagine, if we could hear in this place to-day the voice of Lincoln or of Garibaldi, of Victor Hugo, or of Shelley, just as you might hear the clear-winged words of Gabriele D'Annunzio, the moving voice of Eleonore Duse or the drawing words of Mark Twain. Imagine, the miracle of being able to call up again the powerful eloquence of your political champions, or the heroes of our patriotic struggles; of being able to listen to the music of certain verses, the wailing of certain laments, the joy that breaks out in certain cries of the soul; the winged word would seem to raise itself once more into the air as at the instant when it came forth, living, from the breast, to play upon our sensibilities, to stir up our hearts. It is not to be believed that men will willingly lose this benefit—the benefit of uniting to the words the actual voices of those who are, and will no longer be, and that they should not desire that those whose presence has left us should at least speak among us. We may also believe that certain forms of art, such as the novel and the drama, will prefer the phonetic to the graphic reproduction, or at least a union of the two. And the same may be said of poetry, which will find in modern authors its surest reciters, its most eloquent interpreters. The oratory of the law court and of the parliament, that of the pulpit and of the cathedral, will not be able to withstand the enticement of being preserved and handed on to posterity, to which their triumphs have hitherto sent down but a weak uncertain echo. 'Non omnis moriar'; so will think the orator and the dramatic or lyric artist; and the librarians will cherish these witnesses to art and to life, as they now collect play-bills and lawyers' briefs.

"But internationalism and co-operation will save the future library from the danger of losing altogether its true character by becoming, as it were, a deposit of memories or of embalmed residua of life, among which

\* The JOURNAL is indebted for this report to Miss Helen Tutt, of the St. Louis Public Library staff.

the librarian must walk like a bearer of the dead. The time will come when, if these mortuary cities of dead books are not to multiply indefinitely, we must invoke the authority of Fra Girolamo Savonarola, and proceed to a burning of vanities."

Professor Biagi closed his address by an urgent plea for systematized appraisal and annotation of literature and learning, in which he paid an eloquent tribute to the unwearied labors of the earlier commentators and classifiers in the ancient libraries whose work is still of value, "for the empirical methods of our forefathers, like tradition and legend, have a basis of truth which is not to be despised."

The closing paper on the program, "The library in relation to knowledge and life," by William E. A. Axon, of Manchester, England, was a graceful literary production, pleasingly delivered. In attempting to picture the ideal library, which would embrace all human records, and admitting the necessity of selection, Mr. Axon said: "Even in Utopia, such a mass of literature, good, bad, or indifferent, would be impossible, for it would embrace all that human wisdom and human folly has ever entrusted to the recording word. Physical and financial considerations impose upon all existing libraries the necessity of selection; but the ideal library would be all embracing and include all the literature of every land and of every science. Would the ideal library include 'trash'? Must everything be preserved? Such inquiries are natural enough in an age when the printing press vomits forth day and night much that the sober-minded could easily spare. But everything that comes from the human brain is an evidence of what the mind of man can accomplish, if not for wisdom then for folly. The most stupid production that ever flowed from a pen is at least a human document. And who shall decide what is and what is not 'trash'? The legendary dictum attributed to Al Moumenin Omar, who declared that whatever was opposed to the Koran was noxious, and whatever agreed with its teachings was unnecessary—a dictum at once practical and thorough, has not earned either the assent or the gratitude of posterity. Sir Thomas Bodley, the munificent founder of the great Oxford Library, a learned man and a friend of learning, excluded plays and pamphlets from his great collection as mere 'riff raff.' He thus missed the opportunity of making a matchless collection of Elizabethan literature, and of furnishing to future ages the material for solving many of the problems that now perplex the student of the most glorious period of English literature. To Bodley the plays of Shakespeare as they came singly from the press were 'trash,' and he died before they were collected into the goodly 'First Folio.' That the friends as well as the foes

of learning can make such enormous blunders may give us pause in the effort to decide what is unworthy of preservation. 'What,' asked Panizzi, 'is the book printed in the British Dominions . . . utterly unworthy of a place in the National Library?' And he tells of a British library that was entitled to books under the copyright law that solemnly rejected Scott's 'Antiquary,' Shelley's 'Alastor' and Beethoven's musical compositions as unworthy of a place upon the shelves.

"The nearest approach to the ideal library is in the attempt to supply with generous liberality the literature of all lands and subjects to be seen in the great national collections, provided mainly at the cost of the state, though often enriched by the munificence of individuals. The British Museum is the most familiar type of such an institution, and may probably, alike in extent and in freedom of access, claim the premier position. France might possibly in some respects challenge the claim, and other European nations are proud of their vast repositories of literary treasure. In the Library of Congress, America, though later in the race than some of her compeers, is, with amazing energy, building up a great national library, and, happily unfettered by conventions, is working with skill and individuality that insures success. But in the nature of things the newer institutions are at a disadvantage. No modern library can duplicate the treasures of the Vatican. Every great library rejoices in the possession of gems that are unique. Happily in these latter days, the arts of exact and faithful reproduction have made it possible to have trustworthy facsimiles prepared. These simulacra can never have the interest of the originals, but they suffice for the purposes of scholarship, and they have a further value as a precaution against the loss to learning that would follow from the accidental destruction of the originals. . . . There is another function of national libraries. Their catalogs, so far as they are printed, should form a standard of excellence and be an important contribution not only to the bibliography of the nation to which they belong, but also to that universal catalog which haunts the dreams of students and librarians who in our time have taken such mighty strides toward this unattained ideal. When the first International Library Congress was held in London in 1877, I urged the printing of the British Museum Catalog of Printed Books, which then filled two thousand volumes of manuscript and was estimated to contain three million entries. There were, of course, many other advocates of the printing scheme, both earlier and later. The task was declared to be impossible of execution. Yet it has been accomplished. The British Museum Catalog of Printed Books is the best bibliography of English literature, and it is also the largest



contribution that has ever been made to the Universal Catalog. The publication of the British Museum Catalog has facilitated research and has sensibly raised the standard of accuracy. In spite of the general opinion that every man and nearly every woman is able to drive a dog-cart, edit a newspaper and make a catalog, the accurate description of books is not an easy art to be learned without apprenticeship or effort. The youngest of the national libraries, if I may so style the Library of Congress, has made a novel and praiseworthy departure in the supply of printed catalog title slips to other libraries. This is one of several examples of economy by co-operation."

After a general survey of the work already done, and to be done, in cataloging, classification and bibliographical fields, Mr. Axon concluded his paper by defining the duty and the mission of the library in the following terms:

"The duty of the library in relation to learning is to garner with sedulous care all the fruits of knowledge, to record what is known, and to provide material from which future knowledge may be wrought. The mission of the library to the individual is to place before him for his use and benefit all the knowledge and all the wisdom and all the inspiration that the ages have accumulated."

It is to be regretted that all members of the A. L. A. could not listen to these interesting addresses at the annual meeting in October, instead of the comparatively small audience which enjoyed them on this occasion. The fact that 124 section meetings of the Congress were held in four days meant a necessarily small audience for any one meeting, of whatever interest or note.

#### LIBRARY NOMENCLATURE.

SINCE 1876 the American Library Association has aimed by means of co-operation to bring uniformity into library methods. That it has not been altogether successful we are well aware, nor it is desirable that there should be too much uniformity. Libraries should possess some individuality. Besides, the older and larger libraries must necessarily be more or less conservative, while new methods are adopted more quickly by the newer libraries.

In the matter of terminology there is not at present in most cases any authority to which we can refer. We must fall back upon usage, and there we find a disagreement in the use of terms by librarians. No dictionary of library science is yet available, and our standard dictionaries contain but few of the special words and phrases employed in libraries. The time may not yet be ripe for fixed definitions. In any case we shall not be able to insist upon the general use

of terms even if we agree among ourselves as to their meaning. Most assuredly the public will remain at sea in regard to them.

The preparation of a list of definitions for the A. L. A. catalog rules has shown that library nomenclature, at least in that part devoted to the science of cataloging, is by no means definitely established. While it is not essential to the welfare of libraries and librarians that terms should be used uniformly by all of us, we recognize nevertheless that uniformity is desirable. The increasing number of library school students is alone a good argument in favor of uniformity. Definitions aid in instruction. They help in clarifying ideas. Confusion of terms leads to misunderstanding of rules. And for bibliographical purposes, if it is necessary or desirable to obtain a correct description of a book, it becomes essential to have uniformity in the use of terms, otherwise we can never be sure whether or not we have the right book or edition. This is noticeable in collation, where catalogers differ in their interpretation of "plates" and other items.

Among cataloging terms about which there is no general agreement may be mentioned "reference," "cross reference," and "added entry." The older libraries, following no doubt the use of the British Museum in regard to cross reference, have employed it in two ways—a general cross reference to mean merely a reference from one heading to another, and a specific cross reference, meaning a reference to a specific book. The "Eclectic card catalog rules" follows the British Museum, and Perkins uses the terms "absolute" and "relative" cross reference, with similar meaning. Cutter, however, defines cross reference as "reference from one subject to another" (what is known familiarly as a "see also") thus limiting its use to subject entry, and the term reference as "partial registry of a book (omitting the imprint) under author, title, subject or kind, referring to a more full entry under some other heading." The "Library School rules," which has for some time been used as a text-book in library schools, defines "reference" as "a direction referring from one heading to another," and calls any entry other than the main entry by the term "added entry." An "added entry" is designated "side entry" by Perkins and "partial entry" by Anderson in the New South Wales Public Library rules.

"Anonymous" means literally without a name. Some catalogers consider a book anonymous when the author's name is not on the title-page; while on the other hand, many catalogers treat it as if it were not anonymous when the author's name appears anywhere in the book.

"Half-title" is the common English term for the short title preceding the title-page of a book, but American dictionaries call this condensed title, a "bastard title." American librarians do not as a rule use this



latter term, following Cutter, who calls it the half-title. The "American dictionary of bookmaking and printing" does not define a "half-title," but gives under "bastard title" the definition of half-title as used by Cutter. The "Century" defines half-titles as "the short title of a book at the head of the first page of text; also the title of any subdivision of a book that immediately precedes that subdivision when printed on a full page and in outline."

"Binder's title" is defined by Cutter and the "Standard dictionary" as "the title given at the back of the book," but is it not commonly used to mean "the title lettered anywhere on the binding of a book?"

The Committee has been forced to employ some term to cover the description of the physical make-up of a book, and adopted the word "collation" to include the paging, volumes, illustrations, maps, plates, etc., and size. The only authorities on cataloging using the word in this sense are the "Manual of library cataloguing," by Quinn, and Wheatley's "How to catalogue a library (both English) the latter, however, omitting size. None of the dictionaries give this meaning. Cutter's "Rules" (ed. 3) includes these items under the term "imprint," which as defined by all of the dictionaries includes merely place, publisher's name and date. "Imprint" is not satisfactory for the items included in the Rules under "collation." "Collation" is the best term so far suggested. Quinn's "Manual" says: "This statement of the number of pages and illustrations is known as the collation, as to examine a book for the purpose of ascertaining that it is perfect is to collate it." The size does not properly belong under collation. In the new edition of the Rules size will probably be placed separately after collation.

There is also little agreement as to what is a plate. The Boston Public Library says "any illustration that occupies a whole page," regardless of pagination. The "American dictionary of bookmaking and printing" says "an illustration of any kind inserted in a book." (See LIBRARY JOURNAL, 1904, April, p. 209-10; May, p. 274.)

The word "collector" used by Cutter in the sense of compiler is designated "rare" by both the Century and Standard dictionaries. Compiler seems to be the better word.

Many terms are used regularly by catalogers with two or more meanings; such are: edition, volume, periodical, serial, continuation, institutions and societies, and others. The Committee must decide upon the sense in which the terms will be employed in the A. L. A. Rules and will print the definitions in the new edition.

The Committee asks for suggestions in regard to the above mentioned terms, as well as others used in the Advance edition of the A. L. A. Rules.

ALICE B. KROEGER, *Secretary Committee.*

## THE RELATIVE SHELF SPACE OCCUPIED BY BOOKS PUBLISHED IN ENGLAND AND IN THE UNITED STATES.

It has doubtless been observed by those who handle a considerable number of both English and American books that the former are, on the whole, thicker than those published in America. To get a more definite idea of this difference, I have investigated the matter more or less tentatively, with the following results:

Two hundred and eighty-eight new books recently imported for the Enoch Pratt Free Library, of Baltimore, from England were found to take up 400.5 linear inches of shelving. During the same period 358 new books published in the United States were purchased. These take up 444 inches of shelving. The English books contained 90,781 pages and the American ones 104,711 pages. The result of calculations from this data shows that the 358 American books average 1.24 inches per book, 235.6 pages per inch, and 292.5 pages per book. The 288 English books show an average of 1.39 inches per book, 226.7 pages per inch and 315 pages per book.

Two elements, it will be seen, enter into the increased thickness of the books published in England—fewer pages per inch and an average of more pages per book. A third possible element, the thickness of the boards used in binding, has not been considered. The difference in the number of pages per inch is due to the difference in the average character and quality of the paper used, the paper in the English publications being thicker, though lighter in weight and of better quality. To a certain extent it also means that high grade English books are more likely to be of sufficient importance to be purchased by an American library. This difference of 8.9 pages per inch makes a gain for the American book of 106.8 pages per foot, or 1068 pages for each 10 feet of shelving, a gain of nearly four American books for each 10 feet. In a mile of shelving this difference would show a gain of nearly 2000 volumes for the American book, and in a building like the Central Library building of the Enoch Pratt Free Library the difference is between eight and ten thousand volumes in the capacity of that building—due to the difference in thickness of paper alone.

The greater average number of pages per book in the English publication, 315 as compared with 292.5, is largely, if not wholly, due to the fact that a larger face of type is used, rather than that there is more matter printed in it. The difference in the average thickness of the two makes a difference of a little over a volume per foot of shelving in favor of the American book. Every 10 feet of shelving

will contain an average of 96.8 American books and 86.3 English ones. In a mile of shelving this difference will affect the capacity of a library by 5544 volumes in favor of American publications; and in a building like that of the Central Library of the Enoch Pratt Free Library the difference in capacity would be about 25,000 volumes. A little less than two-fifths of this difference is therefore due to the difference in the thickness of paper and a little more than three-fifths to the number of pages per volume, on account of the difference in type.

All that can be claimed for the foregoing is a certain marked difference in the amount of space necessary for shelving English and American books, as these are being published to-day. The difference here indicated seems to justify the conclusion that in erecting libraries, especially large buildings, to contain a definite number of volumes, it will be necessary to take into account the relative number of accessions from each country. It is to be hoped that similar comparisons will be made elsewhere, for it will be worth while to get more accurate data for estimating the capacity of libraries and to know something of the increased cost of storage that follows the purchase of a large number of books manufactured in England.

SAMUEL H. RANCK.

#### WILLARD FISKE: LIBRARIAN, BIBLIOGRAPHER AND BIBLIOPHILE.

WILLARD FISKE, the first librarian of Cornell University, was born at Ellisburgh, N. Y., Nov. 11, 1831. After spending two years (1847-48) in Hamilton College, he determined to go to Scandinavia, and completed his studies at the University of Upsala, where he became imbued with a life-long devotion to Norse literature, and began to form a collection of Icelandic books. Returning to America he was employed from 1852 to 1859 as assistant librarian in the Astor Library. Here he received his training in librarianship under J. C. Cogswell, and continued his bibliographical studies. Taking up chess as a recreation, he founded the *Chess Monthly*, which he edited from 1857 to 1860, latterly in conjunction with Paul Morphy. He took an active part in the organization of the chess congress of 1857, and in 1859 published "The book of the first American Chess Congress," including an American chess bibliography. In 1860 he was secretary of the American Geographical Society, and in the next year went to Vienna as secretary to Minister Motley. Returning again to America, he spent the next few years in journalistic work on the *Hartford Courant*, and the *Syracuse Journal*. In 1868, while on a visit to Egypt, he was appointed professor of North European lan-

guages and librarian in the newly founded Cornell University.

At that time the college libraries were looked upon as mere storehouses, from which books might be taken for home reading, and as a rule were open for only one or two hours on certain days of the week. Mr. Fiske's ideal of a university library was a reference library, like the Bodleian or the Astor, which should be the literary workshop of the university and afford the greatest possible facilities to earnest students in their researches. Accordingly, the university library was made primarily a reference library; from the first it was open nine hours daily, and he used to take pride in saying that it was kept open longer hours than any other university library in the land. Under his wise guidance the policy of building up a great reference library was steadily pursued, though often under trying conditions. By gift or purchase the valuable libraries of such scholars as Goldwin Smith, Franz Bopp, Charles Anthon and Jared Sparks were secured for the university, and vigorous efforts were made to obtain larger and more regular appropriations for the increase of the library. In addition to his work as librarian he gave instruction in German, Swedish and Icelandic, and was both popular and successful as a teacher.

In 1874, incited by his interest in Iceland's millennial celebration, he organized a movement which resulted in a large gift of books to the Icelandic libraries, but it was not till 1879 that he made his first visit to that northern island. His marriage to Miss Jennie McGraw took place at Berlin in 1880, and during their travels in Europe he began the formation of his now famous Petrarch collection. After a winter in Egypt they returned to Ithaca, where Mrs. Fiske died in September, 1881. By her will, after providing generously for her husband and relatives, her residuary estate was bequeathed to the university library. In the administration of her estate unfortunate misunderstandings arose, hard feelings were engendered, and in 1883, acting upon the advice of legal friends who pointed out that an overlooked clause in the charter of the university seemed to prevent the retention of the bequest made to the library, Mr. Fiske resigned the librarianship, and a suit was begun in his name to settle the question. After a long litigation it was finally decided that the university was in fact unable, under its charter, to take and hold the bequest. The residuary estate was then divided among the heirs, Mr. Fiske receiving a large share of it. Meantime, he had taken up his residence in Florence, and eventually purchased the Villa Landor, the home of his later years. Here he devoted his leisure to the enlargement and cataloging of his Icelandic and Petrarch collections,

publishing a series of "Bibliographical notices" dealing with these collections.

In 1891 a summer visit of five weeks to the Engadine region bore fruit in a collection of Rhaeto-Romanic literature, numbering over a thousand volumes, which he presented to Cornell University library as a token of his good will. This gift was followed two years later by his gift of a remarkable Dante collection, which, through his later additions to it, now numbers 7000 volumes. The story of this collection, in forming which he again displayed his wonderful skill and ability as a book collector, is gracefully told by himself in the introduction to the printed catalog of the collection, issued in 1900.

Mr. Fiske's repeated visits to Egypt revealed to him another field of activity, and for a number of years he devoted much time and money to the task of perfecting and popularizing what he termed "An Egyptian alphabet for the Egyptian people," based upon Spitta's system of transcription. In the course of this work he made a very complete collection of the literature of transcription. His old interest in chess also revived, and he busied himself in preparing a work to be entitled "Chess in Iceland and Icelandic literature, with historical notes on other table games," the last pages of which were passing through the press this summer. In July he attended the celebration at Arezzo, of the sixth centenary of the birth of Petrarch. Thence he proceeded leisurely northward into Germany, meeting there a friend from America, who was returning with him to Florence, when death overtook him at Frankfurt on Sept. 17.

Generous and warm-hearted, modest and unassuming, gifted with a winning manner, Willard Fiske easily found his way to men's hearts and made many firm and constant friends, whom he loved to gather around his board, and by whom his death is deeply lamented. In his bibliographical work he was insistent upon the minutest accuracy and indefatigable in following up every possible clue to the knowledge he sought. As a librarian he had little sympathy with what has been aptly called the "frying-pan ideal" of the library, or with those who look upon books as so many brick-bats to be scattered broadcast as rapidly as possible. He had the greatest sympathy for the needs of earnest students, and took pleasure in encouraging beginners in the work of research. He loved books with a scholar's love, and his greatest desire was to have his collection used by scholars. It is pleasant to think that this desire is to be gratified, for by his will, his Icelandic and Petrarch collections are bequeathed to Cornell University, already the home of the Dante and Rhaeto-Romanic collections, and the library is endowed with the bulk of his fortune.

GEO. W. HARRIS,  
*Cornell University Library.*

#### THE SEATTLE (WASH.) PUBLIC LIBRARY PLANS.

WHEN on the first day of the new century Seattle's main library building, with practically all its contents, was destroyed by fire, it was both natural to appeal to Mr. Carnegie's sympathies and easy to awaken them. Before the week ended he had given \$200,000 for a building, an example of his munificence at that time unparalleled in the case of a city of the size of Seattle. His only advice was to build fireproof, and leave ample room for the addition which the future was sure to require.

Prophecy is indigenous to longitude 120° west. Therefore, it is not surprising to know that with equally prophetic faith the city had pledged \$50,000 a year for maintenance of its library, at once placing it among the first dozen of the larger American public libraries in point of income. To provide room for expansion it was decided to purchase at a cost of \$100,000 a full block of ground 240 x 256 feet, and the plan was adopted of building for the present one section of the future greater library for Greater Seattle. After two years spent in securing state legislation and decisions of the courts, selecting the site and holding an election to authorize its purchase, the trustees in January, 1903, took up the actual problem of construction.

Professor William R. Ware was secured as professional adviser. His ability and eminence were of great service, especially in obtaining a fair competition; for the architect of a public building must be selected after a more or less open competition. Professor Ware assisted in preparing an 18-page program setting forth the problem and regulations, which has been pronounced a model. The whole competition, it is believed, was eminently fair and as satisfactory to the contestants as it has proved to the trustees.

A brief account of the competition may be useful. Six architects of national reputation were invited to submit sketches, each receiving \$200 to cover the approximate cost of draughting. Three premiums of \$200 each were also offered the authors of the best three designs submitted by local architects, whether they should be considered for the grand award or not. The competition otherwise was practically open to any architect who chose to enter. Each architect, in addition to the printed program, was furnished with a topographical plat and four photographs of the site, a map of the city and blue prints showing tentative floor plans.

The 30 sets of plans received brought out a great variety of treatment of both interior and exterior, and Professor Ware was authority for the statement that the designs were so uniformly good that he wished for the sake of reaching a decision some of them were not so good. The perspective of archi-

teet P. J. Weber's successful design speaks for itself, and many other designs seemed almost equally attractive.

Inasmuch as this building is one of those libraries "built from the inside out," if the interior does not prove a success from an administrative point of view, the present administration will have nobody but themselves to thank. Altogether, it may fairly be characterized as "a librarian's library." Every important type of American library building was visited and studied in preparation for its planning, and though graphic criticism of plans was not asked from the profession at large, many of its members had been consulted before they were completed. Personal experience with this particular library and its constituency in five different buildings (for it had had four removes and a fire in its ten years of existence) lent something of the homely practical to accumulations of theory.

To plan a structure containing the *vitals* of a library, all equally able to grow double or treble, but the building always remaining a symmetrical whole, was the interesting problem. It is because this problem has perhaps not been presented before in just this light that I have ventured to bring these plans to the attention of librarians.

The problem was rendered less complicated by a firm belief in simple subdivisions of space. This conviction was not quite so radical perhaps as some—that of Mr. Dana, for instance; but it was a foregone conclusion that a library which had long maintained that the only proper limitations on the public's freedom of use were those proved necessary for the safety of the property would not favor elaborate subdivisions of its stock or its floor space. Taught also many a lesson by poverty during its short life, facility and economy of administration were especially desired by the library.

A square site naturally suggested the quadrangle type of structure. That side of the quadrangle which was to be the principal front could be built first, taking care to make it sufficiently massive, with a stack added, to furnish room for all modern library activities. The blue prints furnished competing architects showed approximately the size and relations of the various departments to be provided and a sketch of proposed future extensions.

The cut of the main floor plan, shown elsewhere, shows the form of the building now being erected and illustrates the simplicity of its subdivisions. It also furnishes a hint of the method of future enlargement. By extending one or both of the end pavilions, additional room for public use can be gained as desired, for on every floor these large end spaces are the seat of the principal public functions of the institution—those whose growth may be predicated with all certainty. The south end of the building contains the children's department on the ground floor,

the large open-shelf circulating and reading room on the main floor and an assembly hall on the top floor. The north end has on the ground floor the newspaper room; on the main floor, reference headquarters; and on the top floor a space, now appropriated for an art gallery, which will one day be the home of special collections and specialized study work. The elevator will naturally be installed in the north end.

All floors, except a mezzanine, are 200 feet long by 70 feet in extreme width. The height of the basement is 12 feet, of the main story 22½ feet, and of the top story 15 feet. Seven stack stories of 7½ feet each are accommodated, the initial story beginning three feet below the general basement level.

The basement floor is placed just enough below grade to leave the full-sized windows flush with the ground. This floor contains, besides the children's and newspaper departments, the bindery, branch delivery room, document room, men's conversation room, toilets and mechanical rooms.

The delivery desk, as may be seen, is at the heart of the building, with the administration rooms grouped about it so that nearly every worker is within a few yards of that center, which should largely promote efficiency and economy. The work rooms in the interior angles in the rear are but one-half story in height. The delivery room and those in the end pavilions are the full story; the remainder of the floor has over it a mezzanine containing the trustees' and librarian's rooms, and the staff luncheon room, kitchen, and rest rooms.

The top floor has large skylights as well as full-sized windows; at present nominally to be used for art gallery and museum and for assemblies, this floor is largely in reserve for the future.

The stack is not designed for a "wide-open policy"; but on the other hand, the keynote of all the floor plans is that the library belongs to the people, and that the staff is there to serve them. Almost no space is used up in halls or corridors. As a final precaution against irreparable errors of present judgment, every partition in the building, except those walls that are its principal support, is made of hollow tiling or glass, and can be removed at will in case experience suggests a different arrangement or expansion demands it.

The only feature of these plans which is considered in any sense a contribution to library architecture is the spacious south reading room, seating now about 150 readers, and easily enlarged, which will have on open shelves 20,000 volumes of standard books, as well as all the standard periodicals, and which at the same time will be the open-shelf circulating room, doing the bulk of the circulating work of the central library. In this one room will be gathered practically everything but newspapers which the ordinary man would ever want to read,



his alike to borrow for home use by simply having it charged at the door, or, if he chooses, to taste and then enjoy on the spot. It seems to me that this room is the true type of the library of the future, be it large or small, performing best its great function of bringing the man and his book together.

CHARLES WESLEY SMITH.

#### BULLETIN OF THE A. L. A. COMMITTEE ON BOOK PRICES.

THE A. L. A. committee on relations with the book trade has issued Bulletin No. 8, dated August, as follows:

##### *Bulletin No. 8.*

It pays to wait. Here are good books, with their prices when published, followed by their prices now as given in clearance sale catalogs mentioned in previous bulletins.

- Adams, O. F. Some famous American schools. 1903. \$1.20 net. "Slightly rubbed," 90 c.  
 Armstrong, Sir W. Raeburn. 1901. \$25.00 net, \$8.00.  
 Blades, W. Enemies of books. (Limited ed.) \$10.50, \$3.00.  
 Boulger, D. C. Short history of China. 1900. \$2.50, 95 c.  
 Cole, T. Old Dutch and Flemish masters. 1895. (Limited ed.) \$25.00, \$10.00.  
 Coues, Elliott. Field ornithology. \$3.50, 63 c.  
 Decle, L. Three years in savage Africa. 1898. \$5.00, \$1.25.  
 Firth, J. B. Augustus Caesar. (Heroes of the nations.) 1903. \$1.35 net. "Slightly rubbed," 90 c.  
 Fitz Gerald, E. A. The highest Andes. 1899. \$6.00 net, \$1.88.  
 Furniss, H. Confessions of a caricaturist. 1901. 2 v. \$10.00 net, \$4.00.  
 Grimm, J. L. Teutonic mythology. 1900. 4 v. \$17.50, \$3.00.  
 Hinsdale, B. C. Horace Mann and the common school. \$1.00 net, 25 c.  
 Hyne, C. J. C. Through Arctic Lapland. 1898. \$3.50, 75 c.  
 Longfellow, W. P. P. The column and the arch. 1899. \$2.00, 87 c.  
 Maulde la Claviere, R. de. Women of the Renaissance. 1900. \$3.50, 87 c.  
 Peary, R. E. Northward over the great ice. 1898. 2 vols. \$6.50 net, \$2.25.  
 Pickering, W. A. Pioneering in Formosa. 1898. \$6.00, \$1.00.  
 Pond, J. B. Eccentricities of genius. 1900. \$3.50, 87 c.  
 Rogers, J. E. Thorold. Six centuries of work and wages. (New ed.) \$3.00, \$1.00.  
 Seyffert, Oskar. Dictionary of classical antiquities. 1891. \$6.00, \$1.50.  
 Sonnenschein, W. S. Best books, and Reader's guide to contemporary literature. 1891-5. 2 vols. \$16.50 net, \$6.25.  
 Stadling, J. Through Siberia. 1901. \$6.00, 94 c.  
 Traill, H. Duff. Sir John Franklin. 1896. \$6.40, \$1.50.  
 Whiteing, R. Paris of to-day. 1900. \$5.00, \$1.00.  
 Wise, Barton H. Henry A. Wise of Virginia. 1899. \$3.00, 38 c.  
 Worsfold, W. Basil. Redemption of Egypt. 1899. \$10.00 net, \$1.13.

Address inquiries and suggestions to any member of the Committee. Arthur E. Bostwick, *Chairman*, N. Y. P. L., 226 West 42d street; John Cotton Dana, Newark (N. J.) F. P. L.; Bernard C. Steiner, Enoch Pratt F. L., Baltimore, Md.

#### "LIBRARY WEEK" MEETING OF THE NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

"LIBRARY week" of the New York Library Association fell this year from Sept. 24 to Oct. 3, and marked the 14th annual meeting of the association. Lake Placid, in the Adirondacks, was the familiar meeting place, and although, for the first time in the five years that these week-long conventions have been held, the weather was unfavorable, the meeting proved one of the most interesting so far held. The program was of unusual merit, centering in special addresses by well-known speakers; the registered attendance of 140 was representative of library workers of the state, and a number from outside its borders; and despite the efforts of the equinox, the mountains, the lakes and the golf links gave opportunities for out-of-door enjoyment.

On Monday evening, Sept. 26, the first session was opened by the president, Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf, who introduced Mr. Dewey for a few words of greeting. In welcoming the association to the familiar hospitality of the Lake Placid Club, Mr. Dewey stated that but one other organization—the Women's Home Economic Association—had ever been privileged to meet there, and outlined some of the improvements and extensions recently made in the club territory. He referred to the A. L. A. Conference held at Lake Placid ten years ago, and expressed the hope that the Decimal system might be carried out, and that "library week" might be held each year for ten times ten years.

Mrs. Elmendorf gave no extended president's address, but spoke informally, reviewing different aspects of the general subject chosen for the conference—"The function of the public library in democratic society." She pointed out that while the present age seemed essentially the age of scientific and mechanical achievement, the underlying impulse was the impulse for education, and that the work and influence of the public library must be a prime factor in the advance of civilization. The one safeguard in a democratic form of government like our own lies in a truly educated common people. "The short formal school life can furnish to the great majority but little more than a mastery of the bare tools of education, for less than 12 per cent. of the children who enter the first grades in our great cities persist until the grammar grades are finished. Is the whole remaining 88 per cent. to be left to drift through life without further knowledge of the great treasury of the world's thought than is gained before they are fourteen?" To this question the librarian finds the answer in President Eliot's statement that "the uplifting of the democratic masses depends on this implanting at school of the taste for good reading."



Mr. Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress, and president of the American Library Association, was then introduced by the president, and made a brief address. Its burden was the importance and desirability of attendance at the A. L. A. Conference in St. Louis, which, both as a professional and personal experience, was something that no librarian could afford to miss.

Of the general subject of the present meeting, he said, in substance: "The topic you have chosen—'The function of the public library in democratic society'—I have been somewhat in awe of. It is the biggest question that we have, and it means generalization. In my own library work, I have always been engaged in administering a particular library, and have never philosophized very much about the history or the justification of libraries. It has always seemed that more good could be accomplished for the general cause by doing the thing at hand at that particular moment—but there is danger of carrying this principle too far. It may be well, then, to consider the place of the library in the community. But why should not the library take any place that is open to it? Such a theory need not mean spoliation. Are we taking a form of useful service from some other agent of the community who was performing it satisfactorily, or in a more logical way than we? If not, why not proceed to any service that seems in the interest of the community, or in any way right? There is danger, of course, that we may claim too much, and a claim that cannot be substantiated turns into a pretence; but if we claim nothing, but proceed to do our work, there will be relatively little objection on the part of the community. Who knows of objection? Does the community, as a whole, object to any service that any librarian here present is performing? I have seen very few objections, in the press or in public utterances. They may exist. An eminent scientist has recently suggested a doubt as to the value of a college degree, and there will, of course, be doubters and critics of our library administration. There will be skeptics as to the work accomplished, the final influence wrought. But in the main general criticisms are directed not at the aim and purpose of the library, but at details in administration. Only recently I read an editorial protest against 'the tendency of the American librarian to hide himself more and more in increased costly mechanical appliances and behind a balustrade of cards, small and big, yellow and white and green, with an infinity of cabalistic signs thereon.' This suggests a new motto for our national association, 'Patience, and shuffle the cards.' The critic mentioned refers regretfully to the day 'when a lover of books, one who knew something of their contents and could judge and weigh their actual value to the student might have been supposed to be fitted to render

library service,' and is confident that before long 'the men and women engaged in library work will be overwhelmed by the mounting but heavy structure they are rearing.'

"There was a time when one librarian could quietly administer to one reader at a time, but that day is past. Yet in as much of our apparatus as possible, a certain amount of personal, individual service should be realized. Apart from this occasional criticism of details, do you find that there is any real doubt as to the place which the public library occupies in the community? There is some danger of our work being classed as among the emotional activities. It does, in a measure, rest on sentiment; but it is not the only work that rests on sentiment. There are two words we are very fond of using—'inspiration' and 'missionary.' These seem to me to belong to a calling different from our own. The public library is a branch of education, but not the root nor the trunk; the librarian is the twig upon the branch."

After presentation of the treasurer's report by Mr. E. W. Gaillard, and brief announcements by the secretary, the session was adjourned.

Tuesday evening was devoted to an address by Dr. George E. Vincent, of the University of Chicago, on "The library and the social memory." His thesis that the library stands for the continuity of human thought, the concrete intellect of the world, was presented with a brilliancy, force and play of wit that made it a notable and delightful production. It will appear later in full in the columns of the JOURNAL. Committees were appointed as follows: *Resolutions committee*—Willard Austen, Cornell University Library; Miss Margaret McCabe, Buffalo Public Library; Miss Caroline M. Underhill, Utica Public Library. *Nominating Committee*—A. L. Peck, Gloversville Public Library; Miss Anna H. Perkins, Ilion Public Library; Miss Florence Woodworth, New York State Library.

Miss Marie L. Shedlock, of London, filled the Wednesday evening session with an exposition and illustration of "The fun and philosophy of Hans Christian Andersen." Miss Shedlock is well-known as an exponent of the gentle art of story-telling, and during the past year her lectures and recitations have been given in many American libraries and have done much to improve methods of library work with children. In her present talk, addressed as it was to an adult audience, she brought out the significance and importance of Andersen's work, as a master of the fanciful in literature, and as a moral teacher, set high above the rank of the mere collector or paraphrast of fairy tales. Her points were illustrated by stories, or bits of stories, admirably representing the mingled satire, gentleness, humanity and delicate humor of the Danish writer, and presented

with a vivacity and individuality that held her grown-up audience as intent as if they had been in fact the children for whom the tales were first told.

On Thursday there were three sessions, all well attended—thanks, perhaps, to the steady rain. The morning session, with W. S. Biscoe as chairman, was mainly given to a presentation and consideration of the report of the committee on library institutes. This was read by W. R. Eastman, as Dr. Canfield, the chairman of the committee, had been unable this year to give personal attention to the institute work, and had asked that the report be presented by another member. The series of eight institutes held in the spring, previously noted in these columns, were described, and the general aims and plans of the institute committee were outlined. The records of attendance for the three years the institutes have been held show "that the first and second years were about equal, and that in the last year there was a slight falling off in numbers. That the quality of the meetings was inferior will not be suggested by any who were present. Indeed, they seemed to your committee to be more practical and helpful than before, and quite as highly appreciated by those who came. But clearly the year has not seen an advance in numbers, and the libraries and the librarians who have not been reached are largely in the majority. Out of 500 to 600 libraries in the state whose co-operation is desired, only 108 were counted present in 1902 and but 80 in 1904.

"The organization of eight local library clubs appears to have been a distinct gain. Each of these clubs made certain the presence of a group of interested persons who accepted the responsibility of making preparation for the meetings, arranging the program of the evening sessions and sending notice to the neighboring libraries. Some accomplished more than others, but in every case these few devoted workers undoubtedly accomplished more than the state committee could possibly have done this year without them. The hope for the future of the institute movement on its present lines will rest largely in the hands of the district clubs."

It was pointed out that the institute work was but partially accomplished. "What we have gained is that groups of librarians here and there are getting together, and that their library work means more to them than it did, and they are beginning to do it better. The organization of the local library club has been a step in the right direction, and these must be encouraged to continue whatever plans are adopted. The task yet before us is to persuade the majority of the librarians in the small places of the state that they are called to do something more than merely to hand out and charge the books that are called for. We want to lead them to see the significance of their service of in-

roducing the people to the ministry and society of books, and induce them to make great efforts to be efficient in doing this.

"How shall we do this? We have been holding institutes and some have come to them and have been repaid. But an institute means time and money for a journey. Many a librarian opens her library only three or four days in the week, and for an hour at a time, and is paid perhaps \$50 or \$100 a year for doing it. Perhaps she gets no pay at all. It is not a life work, as with most of us. It does not mean so very much, and the time and money for the institute seem hardly worth while. What inducement can we hold out? Here is our problem. Can the state association, by any new methods or by larger expenditures, or by persistence in the course already begun, hope to see the interest increase so as finally to reach the great body of librarians in the state? To your committee it seems extremely doubtful, or at least a process of slow development. We can continue through our committee to encourage and assist the local clubs in their efforts, and this we shall do, of course; but to make the institute a more definite, instructive, inspiring force than it has been and more attractive to those who do not now feel drawn to it, the social influence is not enough. An evening lecture is not enough. It will require fuller preparation, more workers, longer continued sessions and perhaps smaller districts and more meetings.

"A voluntary association like ours cannot be expected to meet a demand of this sort. There is not among us a leisure class on which we can draw for such service to the extent needed." The state appears to be the natural agency to develop and continue this work. "It has the power and the resources with which to increase the number of institute meetings, if this is best, bringing them nearer to many libraries. It has the power and the resources with which to increase the number of sessions, making attendance more worth while. It can also allow a part of the public library grant to be spent for librarian's expenses at the institute. It can prescribe the conditions of state aid to any extent that may at any time seem wise.

"If the state takes up the work it will not follow that the association should relinquish it. The local library clubs would remain in full operation. There would still be a service of great importance in keeping in touch with these various clubs which would naturally fall to your committee. The several clubs would be profited by such a bond of union, and the state service improved by constant consultation with your representatives. The state would always need to be calling on the libraries for personal aid in the meetings. The state's part would naturally be to supply the educational features of the institutes, with the association and the

clubs to furnish the social and inspirational impulse, the papers and the speakers which will always be essential, and so they would work hand in hand, and the association would always have ample scope for continued service in this field."

There was general discussion of the report, in the course of which those associated with the various institutes gave their opinions and experience. On the whole, the institutes were regarded as useful and, in a measure, effective. They required of their conductors more time and work than busy people could readily give, and they did not reach the smaller and more remote libraries that needed them most. Mr. Dewey spoke in favor of the work being carried on by the state, broadened to give perhaps a week of sessions, and strengthened by securing the services of the best speakers and instructors. On recommendation of the committee the following resolutions were adopted:

"1. That in the judgment of this association the work of library institutes is of vital importance and should be strengthened and continued.

"2. That the officers of the association acting jointly with the Committee on Institutes are instructed to send a copy of this report to the State Commissioner of Education and the Regents of the University, asking their early and earnest consideration of its suggestions and pledging the hearty co-operation of this association in any steps the state department may take to promote the utmost efficiency in library administration.

"3. That the whole matter of the policy and control of institutes for the ensuing year be referred with full power to act to a joint committee to consist of the executive board and the library institute committee with power to add to their number."

The session closed with an informal account by Dr. Aksel Andersson, of the University of Upsala, of the library with which he is connected. Dr. Andersson was in attendance at the meeting, on his way to the A. L. A. Conference at St. Louis, and was an interested and appreciative participant in all sessions and in the social and out-of-door life. Different as are the conditions of the Upsala library from those of the small American public library, his sympathy for American ideals was evident, and was frequently expressed. His brief description of the treasures of the Upsala library, of its five centuries of gradual development, and of the college life for which it is the scholarly center, brought out the kinship that exists among all libraries, however different may be their environment or their past.

In the afternoon, under the chairmanship of Mr. Brandegee, the session was opened with remarks by Mr. John Thomson, of Philadelphia, upon the effort toward the classification of fiction made for the Keystone State Library Association by the Philadelphia Free Library, in its recent bulletin no. 5, recorded elsewhere in this issue. It is desired to obtain the aid of other libraries in indexing and classifying, on these lines, fiction not included in the present bulletin, so that in the end a comprehensive

classification of fiction may be secured; and it was urged that the New York association co-operate in this effort. A resolution was adopted providing that a committee be appointed by the association to confer with the committee of the Keystone State Library Association for the carrying on and extension of this catalog of prose fiction.

Dr. James H. Canfield then delivered an address on "The librarian's duty as a citizen," tracing the parallelism in the development of the public school and the public library in the United States, and dwelling upon the many ways in which the librarian, through influencing the public to the right use of the right books, may be a force for civic betterment and higher social ideals. Discussion followed, the chief speakers being Messrs. Peck, Dewey, and Eastman, and Miss Hewins, of Hartford.

In the evening Miss Mae E. Schreiber, state inspector of literature in the state Education Department, spoke on literature for children and the use of books by children in the school and in the library. Her remarks were intended for teachers, rather than for librarians, and her experiences and illustrations were drawn more from the public school than from the library. Officers for the ensuing year were announced as follows: President, William Reed Eastman, New York State Library; vice-president, Miss Helen E. Haines, LIBRARY JOURNAL; secretary, Miss Ellen M. Chandler, Buffalo Public Library; treasurer, Edwin White Gaillard, New York Public Library. Members of Legislative Committee and Institutes Committee, respectively, H. L. Elmendorf and W. R. Eastman. A pleasant message of greeting was read from Dr. A. S. Steenberg, of Horsens, Denmark, who attended the Placid meeting two years ago.

Friday was devoted to round table meetings, with a dance in the evening. On Saturday morning committee reports were presented, as follows: Legislation (W. R. Eastman); Reading lists (Mrs. Elmendorf); Publicity (Miss Hazeltine). These were all brief, and in the nature of reports of progress. The report of the resolutions committee, expressing thanks to the various speakers and to the Lake Placid Club and its associates, was accepted. The committee to confer with the Keystone State Library Association committee regarding fiction classification was announced, as follows: Arthur E. Bostwick, Miss Theresa Hitchler, Miss Martha T. Wheeler. The rest of the morning was devoted to a discussion of the new Education Department of the state, opened by Mr. Dewey, and to debate on the use of rural libraries in district schools. Before adjournment Dr. Andersson, in a brief speech, expressed his appreciation of the help and enthusiasm he had derived from the meeting, and extended all good wishes for the future usefulness and success of the association. A

supplementary meeting was held in the afternoon, when the discussion on rural libraries was continued, among the chief speakers being Miss Schreiber, Mr. Dewey, and Mr. Wellman. At its close the conference was formally adjourned.

There were four round-table meetings: on Bookbuying and book selection, conducted by A. L. Peck, on Tuesday morning; Hard knots in cataloging, conducted by Miss Theresa Hitchler, on Wednesday morning; Reference work in a small library, conducted by George G. Champlin, on Friday morning; and Selection of children's books, conducted by Mrs. Adelaide B. Maltby, on Friday afternoon. Every one was well attended by persons interested in the questions considered, and the atmosphere of all was that of free, informal and general discussion.

There were pleasant social features during the week, including especially the receptions held by Mr. and Mrs. Dewey at their cottage on Tuesday and Friday; and the great Iroquois Council Fire, held on Saturday night, after the formal adjournment of the conference, in the music-room of the clubhouse. Although the original plan for a gathering in the woods had to be changed on account of the unkindness of the elements, the Indian Assembly was a great success, and Mohawks, Oneidas, Senecas, and their fellows, in full war paint and costume, sang tribal songs and danced tribal dances (waltz and two-step predominating) until a late hour.

### Library Association of the United Kingdom.

ANNUAL MEETING, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, AUG. 30-SEPT. 1, 1904.

The 27th annual meeting of the Library Association of the United Kingdom was held at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on Aug. 30, 31, and Sept. 1, 1904. This was the first time the association had met in the old Northumbrian city, and every effort was made by civic authorities and local hosts to provide interesting and entertaining features. The local arrangements were admirably carried out under the direction of Mr. Basil Anderton, secretary of the local committee, and in its professional as well as in its social aspects the conference was most agreeable and successful.

Sessions were held in the rooms of the Durham College of Medicine, with an attendance of about 300 members and delegates from all parts of the United Kingdom. The American Library Association was represented by Mr. John Cotton Dana, of the Newark (N. J.) Free Public Library. Some preliminary meetings were held on Monday, Aug. 29, and in the evening the early comers were entertained at a reception

given by the Newcastle Public Libraries' committee.

On Tuesday morning, Aug. 30, the first formal session was held. A civic welcome was extended by the Mayor, Alderman A. P. Andersen; and Sir George Hare Philipson, president of the College of Medicine, gave a few words of greeting in behalf of that institution and of the University of Durham. The president, Dr. Thomas Hodgkin, then delivered his annual address. In welcoming the Library Association to Newcastle, he said that he could not claim for the ancient city distinction as a literary center, its only contribution to the English classics being the poems of Mark Akenside; but the men of Tyneside had taken a full share in the promotion of those manufacturing and industrial arts which had built up the prosperity of England, and if they were allowed to extend their intellectual domain, and to include the neighboring town of Jarrow, they had a claim to the respect of all librarians, for in Jarrow Bede, the first of English historians, had lived and died. The library history of Newcastle dated no further back than the 18th century. In 1748 Dr. Robert Thomlinson, rector of the neighboring village of Whickham, founded a library, free for the use of all students, and containing a useful collection of classical, historical, and theological literature. The Thomlinson library now formed a valuable portion of the City Municipal Library. A somewhat similar library was formed in 1778 at Bamburgh, in the north of the county, by Archdeacon Sharpe and his brother trustees of the charity of Lord Crewe. The well-known Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle was established in 1793.

The president then gave an imaginative sketch of the bookless existence of palæolithic man, and reviewed the early history of libraries, referring to the vast stores of Babylonian learning entombed in the royal library of Nineveh, depicting the probable library of a private gentleman in the south of Gaul about 470 A.D., and from that era passing to note the great book-printing cities in the middle or latter part of the 15th century. He had spoken of a bookless world, but a book-choked world seemed to him only a slightly less desired thought. This was the new peril of the human intellect, the danger of their being "snowed under" by the infinite snowflakes of the Press, a danger which, he thought, they must feel to be a real one. In view of this danger it seemed to him possible that they might have to look to their librarians, and he did think that the librarian of the future might have to take upon himself, even more than he did at present, the office of "guide, philosopher, and friend" to the frequenters of the library. Knowing something of the best in all literature and science, he would be able to guide the flock of his readers from the lower to the higher slopes on the Hill of the Muses. As literature increased



in volume, and science in complexity, and as the path into the Sacred Grove became more obstructed by the jungle-growth of worthless books, a new and more important office than that of arranging and cataloging books would open before the librarian, and he would be able with increasing success to claim his lawful and honorable place as the Hierophant of Literature.

The president's address was followed by a paper on "The elevating influence of public libraries," by Alderman H. W. Newton, chairman of the Public Libraries' committee, who spoke of the library as an evangelizer to the working classes. At the same time, libraries, he said, must appeal to the rich no less than to the poor, to the learned scholar no less than to the ardent student. He commented on the evidence that work in libraries was becoming more educational, and the fact that reference library work was on the increase. A discussion followed, opened by Sir William Bailey, of Salford, who said that the public library was the finest example of municipal co-operation which the country could show. Genius was only about one-half per cent. of the population of the world, and if they could only give that half a chance to benefit mankind something noble had been done. If they could only produce one benefactor in twenty years, one original thinker, one man to lead his fellows to better things, the mission of the library had in part been fulfilled.

"The function of a public reference library in relation to the secondary and higher education of a community," was the subject of a paper by Professor Mark Wright, of Durham College of Science, which in his absence was read by Mr. Doubleday. It stated that modern conditions of education did not lead to use of a reference library: the definiteness of the work, the anxiety of the teachers, the claims of examination, all tended to limit the number of books used; the text book was supreme. Pupils must be attracted to the reference library by indirect means. The school reference library was described, and it was thought that pupils should further be referred to rarer and more expensive books to be found in the public reference library, and should be familiarized with the "glamor of books" by first-rate editions.

G. H. Elliott, librarian of the Free Public Library, of Belfast, read a paper on "Methods of popularizing books other than novels," treating the novel as a pioneer, opening the way to better reading. In the discussion, Mr. J. Potter Briscoe, of Nottingham, said that the price of books, other than novels, was too high in Great Britain. Librarians had to go to the continent for a better state of things in this respect. If publishers could be induced to reduce the price of scientific and other books of educational value, it would pay them, and libraries would be increased in value and certainly in usefulness.

A paper on "The Newcastle-upon-Tyne Public Libraries," by Basil Anderton, librarian, was taken as read, and the session adjourned at one o'clock.

In the afternoon a garden party was given for the delegates by the Mayor and Mayoress of Newcastle, in Jesmond Dene, which was largely attended and proved most enjoyable. In the evening the usual annual business meeting was held. The report of the Council, issued in advance in pamphlet form, was submitted and discussed. The report showed an increased membership, with a total of 588, including 17 honorary fellows, 12 fellows, 363 members, 165 institutions, and 31 associates; the year's necrology included the names of Charles Ammi Cutter, Dr. T. G. Law, Professor Eadward Muybridge, Alderman H. Rawson, and the Baron de Watteville. During the year the library acts had been adopted in 51 places; a bill to abolish the rate-limitation clause had been warmly supported, but had not received Parliamentary consideration; and an appeal was made for renewed effort in its behalf. The catalog rules committee had continued their work, and would present a draft code for discussion. The questions of public libraries and public education, government publications and public libraries, sound leather, and book production had also occupied the attention of special committees of the Council. Formal invitation to the St. Louis Conference of the American Library Association had been received, and the Council had appointed the acting honorary secretary and Councillor Green of Birmingham, as its official representatives at that conference. Gratification was expressed at the continued success of the education classes, held under direction of the Council, at the London School of Economics; there had been an increase in the attendance, as well as in the number of certificates gained by students at the examination. The new syllabus should tend to make the examination more popular and the work of students easier. The Council could not too strongly urge on library authorities throughout the country the importance of the professional examination of the Association. The report was adopted, as well as the balance-sheet and accounts of the honorary treasurer. Reports were also submitted from the Education Committee, the North-Western Branch, the Librarians of the Mersey District, the North Midland Library Association, the Birmingham and District Library Association, the Northern Counties Library Association, and the Bristol and Western District.

Wednesday morning was devoted to consideration of the "Interim report of the committee on public education and public libraries," which was submitted by Mr. Jast, acting honorary secretary. The report stated that the committee had been appointed at the conference on Public Education and Public Li-



braries held under the auspices of the Library Association at Leeds last year. They were instructed to consider all questions relating to the co-operation of public libraries with educational bodies of every description. In pursuance of this aim the committee considered that the first step to be taken was to ascertain what was actually being done to bring the public library into closer relation with educational organization. They therefore drew up schedules of questions which were sent to public librarians, secretaries of university extension centers, and directors of public education throughout the country. The response to this appeal for information had been so voluminous, that the work of arranging and summarizing the replies had taken up the greater part of the time since the appointment of the committee. They had in consequence been obliged to content themselves with presenting a preliminary report. The suggestions for co-operation with the local education authority stated that there should be circulating school libraries in all elementary and secondary schools, financed by the education authority, and administered by the town librarian; that the distribution of books in school libraries should be undertaken by the school staff; that there should be special catalogs of children's books; that there should be travelling "subject" libraries; that facilities should be given for taking school classes to the public library; that special loans should be made by the library to the schools, and that in view of this special school use of the public library and the provision of educational and technical books, local education authorities and school governors should make grants to the library authority. There were also suggestions for co-operation with university extension centers, co-operation with the National Home-Reading Union, and library organization. The report concluded by stating that there remained a further important question which the committee thought should be the subject of consideration at an early date, viz., whether the public library should not form an integral part of the national educational machinery.

General and extended discussion followed, some of the speakers regarding the report as startling and too all-embracing in its suggestions, others commending it as eminently practical, and setting forth high ideals. It was finally decided to thank the committee for their work and to have the report presented and widely distributed, further action regarding it to be left to the Council.

Mr. J. C. Dana spoke on library work in the United States, particularly in school libraries and in small libraries. He suggested a system that was spreading rapidly in America, and that was that the public library control and have in its possession all books that were to be used in schools save for a few permanently kept in the schoolroom for use and that the collection be controlled by

the librarian rather than the school authorities. American libraries had a large number of books suitable for children. To these books they invited the attention of teachers. Appeal was directly made to individual teachers until they had been persuaded to take out a small collection of books adapted to their individual character, the teacher's knowledge of literature, etc. The books were to be used as thought fit, and teachers were persuaded to make these collections a most ideal kind of branch library so far as young people were concerned. In a city of any size from five to twenty of these libraries could be established in the easiest possible way. The books remained the property of the public library and when they became obsolete they were replaced by fresh copies. The schools were visited once a month and an assistant attended to the condition of the books. At the beginning of the half-years the books were not infrequently changed. The speaker said that he was not satisfied with being simply a librarian in the old sense of the word. Sixty per cent, was now spent on fiction not too good and not too clean. While state money was being well spent in fiction he contended also that it was not the best thing they could do with the money. It was almost impossible for the librarian to affect the reading of the growing public. They did not get the adult citizen to come and pay adequate attention to the public library. He contended that through close touch with the school system libraries got hold of the young people of the country. They could teach the use of books so that at manhood readers would understand what there was for them in a book. It was this kind of thing that librarians looked forward to with great hope in the United States.

Luncheon was served, at the invitation of the Mayor of Newcastle, in the Grand Assembly Rooms, Barras Bridge. The afternoon session was devoted to the subject "Local collections." The first paper, by W. H. Kearley Wright, of Plymouth Public Library, dealt with "What should be collected, and how to obtain material." "The classification and arrangement of local collections" was treated by R. T. Richardson of the Newcastle Public Libraries, and T. Duckworth of the Worcester Public Library, dealt with "Local and county photographic surveys." Each topic was discussed, the discussions being opened by assigned speakers. In the evening a conversation was held in the rooms of the Newcastle Literary and Philosophical Society, when a musical program was carried through, and a short lecture on "Old Newcastle" was given by Mr. R. Welford. Presentation was also made to Dr. Hodgkin by Dr. Spence Watson on behalf of the "Lit. and Phil." of three volumes—"Catalogue of the Society," Dr. Watson's "History of the Society" and "Lectures given to the Society."

On Thursday, Sept. 1, the final general

session, held in the morning, was given to "Book selection and annotation." The first paper, by Septimus Pitt, superintendent of branches, Glasgow Public Library, was on "Practical accession work," dealt with selection, ordering and checking, stocking, classifying and numbering, cataloging and checking. The discussion was opened by Mr. T. W. Hand, Leeds, who said it was highly important for library committees and librarians to pay regard to the question of the purchase of net books. He gave an illustration of stocking a branch library through a second-hand bookseller. The president said that from the author's point of view, he was shocked at hearing the low prices at which books might be bought, and to hear of librarians chuckling at getting books for 1s 9d at a second-hand shop. Continuing he asked advice as to the disposition of pamphlets and expressed the hope that in Utopia all such publications would be uniform in size.

"The principles of annotation" were presented by E. A. Savage, of Bromley, who held that "annotation" did not and should not imply "criticism." Mr. E. A. Baker opened the discussion, and held that Mr. Savage was fundamentally wrong in excluding criticism from annotation. There were two classes of book annotators—the school of critical annotators whose aim was to assist people to choose good books, and the critics. Mr. Doubleday, of London, deprecated the idea of the librarian assuming the role of critic. Mr. Dana spoke on the subject of annotation in America, and on the librarian entering the field of criticism. He said they had avoided the latter by establishing a system of "evaluation," which should include a frank statement of an expert on a book. There were, he said, a very large number of small libraries in the state of Massachusetts and in the states of the great west, and if librarians could publish an official list, month by month, telling in an evaluation note why certain books were the best books, that list would be of immense value. He had been a strong advocate of the evaluation of books by the librarian. As a matter of fact librarians were all literary censors, and of the strongest kind. The people put upon their shoulders work of criticism of the most severe kind, and why should a librarian, if he had reliable information, hesitate to put it before his people. Public library work would soon exceed our wildest dreams. The library of a million volumes would be the rule rather than the exception in the course of a few years. In America there were 40 millions of people with the reading faculty. He considered that the people who actually did the reading was not over 10 millions, and that there were some 30 million people constantly coming into the reading field, and about to become patrons of the library. The book that sold a million

copies to-day would sell five million copies in a little time hence, within six months of its publication.

The president asked Mr. Dana if they must not recognize a certain danger in America—an insidious danger of corruption coming in. Was there not a possibility of a powerful publishing house getting hold of some of the people who did this "evaluation?" And might not the influences of the terrible "almighty dollar" come in where they least desired it? Mr. Dana replied that there was a danger of corruption. He did not think, however, that any publishing house could buy up the Library Association, so that the danger in that direction did not appear in the near future.

"The best periodicals" were reviewed in a paper by J. D. Brown, of Finsbury, prepared to illustrate an exhibition of the world's great special periodicals, which remained open for inspection throughout the conference. About 800 current special magazines and reviews in all languages had been arranged and classified so as to afford the members an opportunity of handling a thoroughly typical collection of the most valuable and interesting technical, artistic, and scientific reviews and magazines, English and foreign, now procurable. Mr. Brown said that most municipal libraries made their selection by the simple process of copying the accession lists of others. It was found that 60 per cent. of the annual sum spent on periodicals in such institutions was devoted to the purchase of ephemeral publications of a popular kind, and only 40 per cent. to technical and scientific journals. By dropping many of the popular magazines and by restricting the number of newspapers taken the balance would be better adjusted. There was a pressing need in most British public libraries for a strict revision of the lists of periodicals they filed, and representation should not be confined to English periodicals. In the discussion, regret was expressed by several members at the discontinuance of the "Index to periodicals," published for several years by the *Review of Reviews*, and it was agreed that the Association approach Mr. Stead to consider the republication of such an index and ask him what pecuniary assistance he would need to re-issue it.

In the afternoon two simultaneous sessions were held. The Librarians' Section considered the draft code of rules for an author and title catalog, prepared by the catalog rules revision committee of the Library Association, which was appointed two years ago to revise the rules of the Association. The question as to whether the Library Association could co-operate with the American Library Association and prepare an Anglo-American code was discussed. It was stated that the American Library Association had an exactly similar committee sitting on these rules, which were simply in the draft stage, and before these rules reached their final

form, it was probable that some effort would be made to get one code for England and America. The Committees' Section, which practically corresponds with the Trustees' Section of the A. L. A., discussed two reports on "Rate limitation" and "Education of library assistants," presented respectively by Councillor Abbott, of Manchester, and Mr. H. R. Tedder, the treasurer of the Association.

The annual dinner was held in the evening, in the Old Assembly Rooms, Westgate Road, Dr. Hodgkin presiding, with the usual toasts, among the speakers being Mr. Tedder, Sir Walter Plummer, Alderman Newton, Sir William Bailey, the president, and Mr. Dana. On Friday a visit was made to Alnwick, upon invitation of the Duke of Northumberland, and on Saturday Durham was visited. Besides the exhibition of periodicals, interesting special exhibitions were open throughout the week, one illustrative of local collections, one showing the more useful books for a public reference library, and one devoted to Durham and Northumberland books and prints. Through the co-operation of publishers, the useful exhibition of the best books of the years was again repeated, the various works being arranged in classes.

### American Library Association.

*President:* Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress, Washington, D. C.

*Secretary:* J. I. Wyer, Jr., University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

#### HANDBOOK.

A revised edition of the A. L. A. handbook, dated September, 1904, has been issued and was distributed to members early in September. In form and arrangement it follows the previous issue. The publications of the A. L. A. Publishing Board are described more fully than heretofore, and the membership list has been carefully revised and brought up to date of Sept. 1, 1904. Copies of the handbook may be had on application to the secretary.

### State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMITTEE:  
Miss Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford.

The committee has issued "Connecticut public library document" no. 5, giving the "Address at the reopening of the Acton Library, Old Saybrook, June 30, 1904, by Rev. Samuel Hart, D.D." (10 p. O.) The "Monthly book lists" for June and July have also appeared, somewhat belated.

### State Library Associations.

#### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA.

*President:* Joy Lichtenstein, Public Library, San Francisco.

*Secretary:* Miss Margaret A. Schmidt, 1503 Powell street, San Francisco.

*Treasurer:* Miss Florence B. Whittier, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

The meeting of the Library Association of California was held in Santa Cruz Public Library, Sept. 3, 4, and 5, 1904. Sessions of the association began on Saturday evening in the new library building, where an address of welcome by Mayor Clark was followed by some felicitous remarks by President Lichtenstein, and the reading of papers pertaining to library matters.

Mr. Samuel Leask, a member of the board of library trustees of Santa Cruz, read a paper on "Essentials of a library trustee," given elsewhere (*see p. 524*). Mr. Ripley's paper on "Some essentials and non-essentials in library work" was read by Mr. J. C. Rowell.

On Sunday the library trustees gave the visitors an open-air reception through De Laveaga Heights to Isbel Grove for luncheon, and about and around town later in the day. In the evening the visitors were guests at the residence of Mr. Samuel Leask.

Monday forenoon attention was given to serious papers and serious subjects. The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by President Lichtenstein. In his opening remarks he referred to the recent appointment of Mr. C. S. Greene, of the Oakland Public Library, to be state library trustee, and said that both the Governor and the association were to be congratulated on this auspicious event. A letter of regret was read from Mr. Greene on not being able to be present at the meeting.

The following papers were read:

"Essentials of classification and cataloging," by Miss A. J. Haines, of San Francisco Public Library. "Rules and regulations, essentials and non-essentials," by Mr. R. F. Graves, of Alameda Public Library. "Essentials and non-essentials in the children's room," by Miss N. W. Russ, of Pasadena Library.

At the close of Miss Russ' paper, Mr. Rowell introduced the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Stone, of San Jose, which was adopted by a rising vote:

"The Library Association of California desires to congratulate the city of Santa Cruz upon its new library building, exquisitely beautiful within and without; so accessibly located and intelligently planned to meet the needs of the public and of the administration at least cost; upon the public spirit which has equipped and decorated the interior in so charming, inviting and homelike manner; upon its shelves, freely open and well filled with choice books, that silently but powerfully appeal to the readers; and finally, upon the evidently earnest desire of the board of trustees and the enthusiastic effort of the librarian to render its contents available and useful.

"We believe that this library will prove to be

always a source and center of 'sweetness and light'—the most precious jewel in your urban crown.

"The association desires to express its deep sense of appreciation of the hospitality of the city, as represented by the Mayor, the board of library trustees, the librarian and her friends, which has made every hour of our brief visit so delightful and profitable.

"We bear away a vivid impression of your bountiful kindness; we place ourselves, both as individuals and as an association, unreservedly at your disposal."

At the close of the meeting all present were invited to a luncheon, which was served in the assembly room of the library, tables being set for 100. A pleasant time was here spent, followed by a brief after-dinner course, under direction of President Lichtenstein, during which remarks were made by Dr. F. W. Bliss, Miss Stella Finkeldey, Miss Bullock, a visitor, who is assistant secretary of the State Library of Nebraska; Miss Lilian Howard, Mr. F. K. Baker and Mr. Belfrage, of the Cooper Medical College of San Francisco.

Regular attendants of these association meetings expressed themselves as delighted with the Santa Cruz session, which had been crowned with so many pleasant social features and had brought the librarians in close personal relations and enabled the younger members to get in touch with those of experience and to imbibe the "library spirit" from those who are deeply imbued with it. Visiting librarians, and especially visiting library trustees, unanimously expressed astonishment when told that the Santa Cruz Library building was erected from a gift of \$20,000.

Libraries were represented at the meeting as follows: Alameda, Bakersfield, Haywards, Los Gatos, Napa, Palo Alto, San Francisco (Cooper Medical College and Public Library), San Jose, University of California and Watsonville.

MARGARET A. SCHMIDT, *Secretary*

#### MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Henry M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Miss Gertrude P. Humphrey, Public Library, Lansing.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. L. Converse, Public Library, Mt. Pleasant.

The first institute under the auspices of the Michigan Library Association was held at Kalamazoo, Sept. 22 and 23. The lecture room of the public library was placed at the disposal of the association. Circulars were sent to all the libraries within a radius of 75 miles of Kalamazoo, and they brought out a very favorable response. Fourteen libraries were represented by 19 people. The subject of book selection, ordering and trade bibliography was discussed by Miss G. M. Walton, of the State Normal College Library; that of classifying, cataloging, shelf-listing, etc., by Miss Phebe Parker, of the Sage Library, West Bay City; that of aids and helps to readers, how to meet the public, work with children, etc., by Miss C. F.

Waldo, of the Jackson Public Library; that of handling periodicals, through subscription record to checking receipt and final cataloging, loaning systems, registering card holders, etc., by H. M. Utley, of the Detroit Public Library. Each conductor had an entire session of about three hours, and the several topics were thoroughly discussed. The members of the class were required to take notes and were encouraged to ask questions and to bring forward any matters in the line under discussion which in their experience seemed to require elucidation. It was the common remark among those present that they had derived great profit from the discussions, and that the institute had proved most helpful and encouraging to them in their work. An effort will be made at the approaching session of the Legislature to secure an appropriation to enable the state commission to carry on this work, at least to the extent of paying the expenses of those who serve as conductors and lecturers. A large number of new libraries are springing up in all parts of the state, and in the smaller towns a trained librarian cannot be afforded. The result is that some local applicant, generally a teacher, is appointed who has everything to learn, so far as practical library work is concerned. There is no better way of reaching this class than through the institute.

Miss Flora B. Roberts, secretary of the Michigan Library Association, having accepted a library position in Missouri and removed from the state, has resigned the secretaryship, and Miss Gertrude P. Humphrey, of the Lansing Public Library, has been appointed to fill the vacancy.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss F. Mabel Winchell, Public Library, Manchester.

*Secretary:* Olin F. Davis, Public Library, Laconia.

*Treasurer:* Miss Lydia S. Coleman, Public Library, Newington.

The fall meeting of the New Hampshire Library Association was held at Nashua on Friday, Sept. 23. A special invitation to participate in this meeting was sent to the Massachusetts Library Club, and was largely availed of, as that club had decided to omit its early autumn meeting this year in view of the A. L. A. conference. In addition to a good representation of New Hampshire librarians, about 100 were present from Massachusetts. Sessions were held in the city hall, and dinner was served by invitation of the trustees of the Nashua library, at the Lund Café. The handsome building of the Nashua Public Library was inspected by all the visitors, and its beauty and completeness were admired.

The first session was called to order at 11 a.m. by the president, Miss Winchell, and an address of welcome was delivered by the



Mayor, Jeremiah J. Doyle, and responded to by the president. The first paper read was by Miss Alice Shepard, of the Springfield (Mass.) City Library, on "Book repairing"—a concise, practical outline of processes and methods valuable in smaller libraries. The minutes of the previous meeting and the secretary's report were presented by Mr. Olin S. Davis.

"Why I am an optimist" was the title of a delightful extemporaneous talk by Miss Grace Blanchard, of the Concord Public Library; and Rev. George C. Leighton, of Portsmouth, gave an address on "This epoch of books." The final paper in the morning session was by Miss Mary Bartlett Harris, of the Pillsbury Free Library, Warner, on "Collection and preservation of local historical material."

The afternoon session was opened with a paper by Miss Isabelle H. Fitz, of the Chester Free Public Library, on "How one library spends its \$100." The Chester library, she said, started with a single case of books; "now, it has 2,000 volumes, with a circulation of 5,876 among a population of 800. This gives an average of seven books to each person. Seventy per cent. of the money was spent for fiction, because the demand for fiction was at first great. But that demand has gradually fallen away, so the large percentage for fiction will accordingly grow smaller. Much depends on the librarian as to what the taste for literature should be. Frequent accessions help to keep up interest, and when a great demand for fiction must be met, it lies with the librarian to make that supply interesting, sane and popular. There are two general rules which I think should be followed in the choice of books: First, that the library exists for its patrons. Second, that such books as please the greater number of people should be bought."

Charles R. Corning, mayor of Concord, closed the session with an address on "A few modern novelists," reviewing the trend and characteristics of present-day fiction.

### Library Schools and Training Classes.

#### CHAUTAUQUA SUMMER LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The six weeks' course of the Chautauqua Library School, held July 9-Aug. 19, proved unusually successful. The course was given, as usual, under the directorship of Melvil Dewey, with Miss M. E. Hazeltine as resident director, Miss M. E. Robbins assistant director, and Miss Mary L. Davis and Miss Harriet L. Peck, instructors. The general course covered accession work, cataloging, classification, reference work and bibliography; with special lectures by Mr. and Mrs. Elmendorf, W. R. Eastman, A. L. Peck and Miss M. E. Ahern. The lectures dealt with business relations, book selection and

ordering, buildings and fittings, library administration. A special course on the care and cataloging of maps was given by Miss Davis, and attendance at the lectures of Miss Shedlock—in the regular Chautauqua lecture course—was a requirement. The course was taken by 40 students, representing states ranging from Maine to Texas. The list of students is as follows:

Armstrong, Isabelle A., High School Library, Jamestown, N. Y.  
Boutet, Susie M., apprentice New York Public Library.  
Carver, Eleanor, asst., F. H. Buhl Club Library, Sharon, Pa.  
Chipman, Katherine A., librarian, Public Library, Anderson, Ind.  
Clifton, Hazel R., librarian, Carnegie Free Library, Beaver Falls, Pa.  
Combs, Mary E., Chicago, Ill.  
Congdon, Hazel M., Chicago, Ill.  
Gibbons, Mrs. Mary M. B. A. B. (1885) K. C. O. B. College, Ky.; librarian, Texas Christian University, Waco, Tex.  
Goddard, Katherine A., librarian, Scoville Memorial Library, Salisbury, Ct.  
Griffin, Elizabeth E., asst., Public Library, North East, Pa.  
Hawley, Elizabeth W., apprentice, New York Public Library.  
Hollingworth, Ida F., cataloger, Dover Public Library, Dover, N. H.  
Hough, Jane A., asst., Public Library, Jackson, Mich.  
Johnston, Stella G., apprentice, New York Public Library.  
Jones, Mrs. Carrie C., librarian, Mt. Vernon Public Library, Mt. Vernon, Ill.  
Jones, Mabel, asst., Public Library, Champaign, Ill.  
Kent, Sophie P., apprentice, New York Public Library.  
Kilbourne, Margaret M., asst. librarian, Public Library, Painesville, O.  
Lawlor, Margarite, apprentice, New York Public Library.  
Lawrence, Emma G., asst., Oberlin College Library, Oberlin, O.  
Lewis, Anna L., recently librarian Clemson College, S. C.  
Long, Alice, apprentice, New York Public Library.  
McCullough, Elizabeth, librarian, Public Library, Logansport, Ind.  
Mills, Hattie W., apprentice, Carnegie Public Library, Fort Worth, Tex.  
Parrish, Ophelia A., A. B. Christian College, Columbia, Mo.; librarian, State Normal School, Kirksville, Mo.  
Partridge, Imogene, Jamestown, N. Y.  
Quigley, Ida B., librarian, State Normal School, Shippensburg, Pa.  
Ryder, Emma O., M. A. Hiram College; librarian, Hiram College, Hiram, O.  
Scheufler, Laura B., acting librarian, Carnegie Public Library, Sandusky, O.  
Seaman, Katherine McC., asst., Gloversville Free Library.



Selleck, Eleanor, apprentice, New York Public Library.  
 Spangler, H. Mary, librarian, Mercersburg Academy, Mercersburg, Pa.  
 Sprague, Bertha K., apprentice, New York Public Library.  
 Stroh, Emil F., asst. librarian, Academy of New Church, Bryn Athyn, Pa.  
 Taylor, Una P., librarian, Hamlin Memorial Library, Paris, Me.  
 Wait, Maud A., apprentice, New York Public Library.  
 Wann, Mabel, librarian, Carnegie Public Library, Bradford, Pa.  
 Warren, Mrs. Mary (True), librarian, Public Library, N. Tonawanda, N. Y.  
 Wells, Maria T., Youngstown, O.  
 Yerkes, Lilian M., asst. librarian, Jacob Tome Institute Library, Port Deposit, Md.

#### COLUMBIAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARY SCHOOL.

Columbian University—now George Washington University, of Washington, D. C.—announces the discontinuance of the course in library science previously conducted by it. This is owing mainly to the departure from Washington of Mr. W. P. Cutter, formerly in charge of this course, and to the difficulty experienced in securing the proper faculty for carrying on the work. The establishment of a department of bibliography and library science when a sufficient endowment has been secured has been authorized by an ordinance adopted by the board of trustees for graduate work in this department of study. When the faculty and facilities have been secured for this department the university will be in a position to offer undergraduate work.

#### DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

##### PERSONAL NOTES.

Miss Jessie S. Sawyer, class of '02, was married July 20 to Mr. Stevens A. Coldren.

Miss Charlotte Ehrlich, class of '95, was married Aug. 2 to Mr. Ernest G. Herrell.

Miss Helen Sharpless, class of '01, has been appointed cataloger in the Library of the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia.

Miss Margaret Clark Smith, class of '03, has been appointed assistant in the Library of the West Virginia University, Morgantown.

Miss Alice C. Atwood, class of '02, has been made scientific assistant in library science, Department of Agriculture, Washington.

Miss Edith J. Chamberlin, class of '03, has been engaged as cataloger on the staff of the Brooklyn Public Library.

Miss Susan K. Becker, class of '03, has been appointed assistant in the Pennsylvania State College Library, State College, Pa.

Miss Eliza J. Clevenger, class of '04, will be evening assistant in the Drexel Institute Library during the coming year.

Miss Flora B. Roberts, class of '99, has resigned her position in the Michigan State Library, to become librarian of the State Normal School Library, Warrensburg, Mo.

Miss Florence L. Drinker, class of '00, has been appointed librarian of the Normal School Library, Chico, Cal.

Miss Eleanor M. Hickin, class of '04, has been serving this summer as a substitute in the Public Library, Grand Rapids, Mich.

Miss Lucy Condell, class of '04, is substituting in the Newark Public Library.

Miss Mary M. Craig, class of '04, has been appointed children's librarian, Central Library, Carnegie Library, Pittsburg, Pa.

#### NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

##### CALENDAR, 19TH SCHOOL YEAR, 1904-5.

School opens Wednesday, a.m., Oct. 5.

Election day, holiday, Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Thanksgiving recess begins Wednesday noon, Nov. 23.

Thanksgiving recess ends Monday noon, Nov. 28.

Lectures begin Monday, p.m., Nov. 28.

Christmas recess begins Friday, a.m., Dec. 23.

Christmas recess ends Tuesday, p.m., Jan. 3, 1905.

Lectures begin Wednesday, a.m., Jan. 4.

Lincoln's birthday, observed holiday, Monday, Feb. 13.

Washington's birthday, holiday, Wednesday, Feb. 22.

Visit to New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington libraries, Tuesday, April 4-Monday, April 17.

Lectures begin Tuesday, a.m., April 18.

Summer course begins Thursday, a.m., May 18.

Decoration day, holiday, Tuesday, May 30.

School closes Friday, p. m., June 23.  
 Summer course closes Friday, p.m., June 30.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

#### PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

##### CLASS OF 1904-05.

The register of the entering class (1904-05) is as follows:

Jessie R. Balston, Flushing, L. I. Graduate Packer Collegiate Institute, Brooklyn, 1901.

Mary Alice Chase, New Bedford, Mass. Graduate Wheaton Seminary, Norton, Mass., 1904.

Mary Margaret Douglas, Chatham, Ontario. Graduate Chatham Collegiate Institute, 1901. Toronto College, 1901-02. Library experience: One year, Cedar Rapids Public Library.

Cora K. Dunnells, Wilkinsburg, Pa. College for Women, Cleveland, 1903-04. Carnegie Library Training School for Children's Librarians, 1901-02. Library experience:

- One year, circulating department, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.
- Clara Charles Field, Orange, Cal. Graduate Orange High School, 1902. Library experience: Substitute in Orange Library.
- Zaidee Griffin, New York City. Apprentice course New York Public Library, 1901-02. Library experience: Two years, Webster Library, New York City.
- Elizabeth M. Haskell, Berkeley, Cal. University of California, special student, 1899-1904. Library experience: One year, in the University of California Library.
- Eleanor Elizabeth Hawkins, Buffalo, N. Y. Graduate Buffalo High School, 1896. New York State Summer Library School, 1896. Library experience: Six years, cataloging and circulating departments, Buffalo Public Library.
- Eleanor E. Hegeman, Jamestown, N. Y. Graduate Jamestown High School, 1903. Library experience: One year apprenticeship, James Prendergast Library.
- Florence Chapman Hicks, Arlington, Mass. Graduate Wellesley College, 1903.
- Emily Laurens Horrocks, Utica, N. Y. Oswego Normal School, 1899.
- Elizabeth Skrim Howell, Lawrenceville, N. J. Graduate State Model School, Trenton, N. J., 1900. Library experience: Two years, Princeton University Library.
- Sophia Hill Hulsizer, Flemington, N. J. Oberlin College, 1902-04.
- Karen M. Jacobsen (Mrs.), Alexandria, Minn. Carlton College, 1888-90; Mount Holyoke College, 1890-92; University of Minnesota, 1904; University of Chicago, summer of 1900; summer school of Minnesota State Library Commission, 1903. Library experience: Apprenticeship at Owatonna (Minn.) Public Library.
- Edith Johnson, Matawan, N. J. Graduate Glenwood Institute, Matawan, 1890; Amherst Summer Library School, 1902. Library experience: Volunteer librarian of Matawan Library.
- Frances May Laird, Hinsdale, Mass. Oberlin College, 1895-96.
- Clarence E. Lemassena, Newark, N. J. Princeton University, 1886-89. Library experience: One year, apprentice in Newark Public Library.
- Selma Nachman, Chicago, Ill. Graduate Chicago Training College for Teachers, 1895. Library course, University of Chicago, 1902-03.
- Ruth Genevieve Nichols, Marietta, Ohio. Graduate Oberlin College, 1903. Marietta College, 1900-01.
- Margaret Palmer, Lincoln, Neb. Knox College, Galesburg, Ill., 1871; University of Nebraska, special student, 1894-1900. Library experience: Two years, assistant librarian, Lincoln Public Library; one year, acting librarian, Lincoln Public Library.
- Delia F. Sneed (Mrs.), Atlanta, Ga. Graduate Atlanta Female Institute, 1888.
- Charlotte Templeton, Omaha, Neb. Graduate University of Nebraska, 1902. Library experience: Three years, circulating and reference departments, Omaha Public Library.
- Catherine S. Tracey, Boston, Mass.
- Anna C. Tyler, St. Louis, Mo. Mrs. Piatt's school, Utica, N. Y., 1879-80.
- Margaret Ethelwyn Weaver, Rochester, N. Y. Graduate Rochester High School, 1896.

A summary of the list shows: 3 college graduates, 7 with one or more years' college experience, 5 seminary or collegiate institute graduates, 1 Normal school graduate, 5 High school graduates, 4 education irregular, 13 with library experience, 5 with previous library training.

The representation by states is as follows: New York, 6; Massachusetts, 4; New Jersey, 4; California, 2; Nebraska, 2; Georgia, 1; Illinois, 1; Minnesota, 1; Missouri, 1; Ohio, 1; Pennsylvania, 1; Canada, 1.

#### PERSONAL NOTES.

Pratt Institute Free Library has engaged Miss Julia Wheelock and Miss Julia G. Robeson, of 1904, as assistants.

Miss Annette P. Ward, 1904, has been appointed assistant librarian of the Woman's Institute of Yonkers.

Mrs. Arabella Jackson, 1903 and 1904, has been appointed to the vacancy created by the resignation of Miss Caroline Burnite, of the Carnegie Library, Pittsburg. Miss Burnite, 1894, has resigned her position there to assume the headship of the children's department in the Cleveland Public Library.

Miss Harriet B. Gooch, 1898, has resigned her position as head of the cataloging department in Portland (Oregon) Public Library, to accept the same position in the Louisville (Kentucky) Public Library, and undertakes her new duties Nov. 1.

Miss Edith Miller, 1903, has been engaged as cataloger for the Educational Museum, Teachers College, New York.

MARY W. PLUMMER, *Director.*

#### Reviews.

PEYRON, BERNADINO. *Codices italicæ manu exarati qui in Bibliotheca Taurinensis Athenæi ante diem xxvi. Ianuarii M.C.M.IV. asservabatur recensuit, illustravit Bernardinus Peyron . . . Taurini, Apud C. Clausen, 1904. 600 p. 4°, 18 lire.*

This sumptuous volume possesses a melancholy interest. Not only is it a posthumous publication of a work to which its learned author devoted many years of a long and useful career, but in addition it records the titles and contents of some hundreds of manuscripts in the Italian language destroyed in the fire of last January in the Turin National Library. We are slowly coming to realize the extent of that disaster. In the light of the

statements in a recent number of the *Rivista delle Biblioteche* it is difficult to refrain from apprehension as to the possibility of future losses of the same nature among the famous libraries of Italy. Fireproof construction, efficient insulation, and active efforts in the direction of extreme precaution seem even more imperative than before as one reads the preface to this lengthy catalog, and turns its pages only to perceive what materials for the study of Italian literature and history have perished. It is likewise greatly to be regretted that the preface written by the author and prepared for the press by Sig. Frati of the same library should also have been burned. In this preface Sig. Peyron had included a history of the library of the dukes of Savoy, which became in time the Turin national library, as well as an account of its Italian manuscript collections. Sig. Frati contributes the preface to the present volume, in which among other things he writes a short but interesting sketch of the life of Peyron, more particularly of his work as librarian at Turin. A list of the printed works of the author follows the preface.

The catalog is in Latin, save for the titles of the manuscripts described. Nothing but praise can be given to the simple, direct manner of description, the full and valuable notes, and the frequent references to passages in printed works bearing on the subject-matter of the manuscript or its use by various writers. In typography, in clearness of description, and in its sensible avoidance of both prolixity and undue brevity this catalog appears to set a model. The wide learning and interests of the author are everywhere apparent. We can only lament that a work exhibiting such excellence should prove a monument to perished treasures rather than a guide to their daily use. It is pleasant to learn from Sig. Frati's preface that some of the most valued of these Italian manuscripts have been saved, even though in a sadly damaged condition. The number of manuscripts described is 976, of which number not a few contain a variety of treatises, letters, or notes.

There are two admirable indices. The first gives a list of treatises in languages other than Italian which are included in the list of manuscripts described. These are found in Greek, Latin, French, and Spanish. Then follows an elaborate index to the catalog itself, occupying 93 pages, and covering subjects as well as proper names. A study of this index reveals the great value of the manuscripts even more clearly than a survey of the text.

A half-tone reproduction of a bust of the author in high relief serves as a frontispiece, and is by no means the least interesting and valuable feature of the book. To his family who have published this catalog, the world of letters owes a debt of gratitude.

WM. WARNER BISHOP.

STEENBERG, Andr. Sch. Om landsburgsbiblioteker og udbredelse af landsburgslitteratur; foredrag i det Kgl. Danske landhusholdnings-selskab den 17 Februar, 1904. Copenhagen, Nielson & Lydiche, 1904. 34 p. D.

At a committee meeting of the Royal Danish Rural Economy Society, to consider the publication of a general list of books suitable for parish and rural libraries, a question arose as to the usefulness of agricultural literature, which resulted in an address on the subject at the following meeting of the society by Doctor A. S. Steenberg. The address and a report of the meeting have been issued in pamphlet form, and the information given may prove of interest to American librarians.

Doctor Steenberg states that a set of questions was sent to 107 rural clubs in order to ascertain the status of their libraries; of the 43 which replied only nine reported libraries and these contained very few books on agriculture, which were seldom in circulation and much out-of-date. Other institutions are noted which are known to partially touch on this work, such as the Danish Hedeselskab Thy-Have og Plantningsselskab (backed by Gen. Consul H. Pontopidon, a name connected some years back with the library movement in Denmark), the Royal Library, the public libraries, and the Veterinary and Rural High School Library; and conditions in Norway, Sweden, and Holland are reported as equally unfavorable.

Of the United States, Doctor Steenberg says, "in no other country on earth is so much done to spread culture by means of books as in America; the Americans have developed a superior system of public libraries . . . they have realized the value of bringing 'the right book, to the right man, at the right time,' and this aim they seek as well in respect to the distribution of agricultural literature. The different rural associations work to extend reading. The states furnish books to outlying districts by means of travelling libraries and establish permanent agricultural libraries which contain many books on this subject. But what is most important, they work eagerly to teach farmers how to utilize these books." He describes somewhat in detail the Amherst (Mass.) Agricultural Library, its methods and extent of usefulness; the work of the agricultural faculty at the University of Wisconsin, Madison; the reading clubs among the farm people; the work of the Home Education Department of New York state; the nature work among school children; and the extensive and important work of the Agricultural Department in Washington.

These comparisons lead to his question as to what may be done for the circulation of agricultural literature in Denmark; he recommends that the habit of reading be formed while the child is in school; that the custom

of working so closely with the text-book be moderated and references along similar lines in general reading matter be encouraged, to help towards the acquirement of the reading habit; that more nature work be included in the school curriculum; that the proportion of non-fiction be increased in the parish libraries; that a system of travelling libraries be instituted among the rural associations.

The report of the discussion which followed Doctor Steenberg's address shows forethought for obstacles to be removed before entering on any decision in solving this problem. One member refers to the lack of money to carry out some of these plans, and again the difficulty of meeting the heavy expense of illustrating technical agricultural books, which adds so much to the intelligent reading and study among practical farmers tired after a day's labor. In such a farming country as Denmark, this would undoubtedly influence the wider circulation of this literature.

SARA JACOBSEN.

## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

The *Bulletin of the New Hampshire Public Libraries*, issued quarterly by the state library commission, contains good short practical articles in its September number. Among the subjects are, "Suggestions for small libraries," "Open shelves," "Practical suggestions," "What people can do for the library," and hints on village library management given by Miss Grace Blanchard, under the title "A morning call at the Concord Public Library."

The *Library Association Record* for September opens with Dr. Thomas Hodgkin's presidential address before the Newcastle-upon-Tyne conference of the Library Association, which is followed by an analysis and outline of "Brunet's classification scheme," by Edward McKnight. The usual notes and departments complete the number.

The *Library World* for September contains "Notes on provincial printers and booksellers—Essex," by R. A. Peddie; the eleventh of Archibald Clarke's "Essays on indexing," "The uses of branch libraries," by J. Walton, and "Some points of contact," by S. T. Ewart, who emphasizes the need of courtesy in library attendants, and accuracy and skill in the issuing of readers' tickets. Lord Avebury's list of "The hundred best books" is given, as revised by its compiler in June last.

ROEBUCK, George E., and Thorne, William Benson. A primer of library practice for junior assistants. New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1904. 8+159 p. D.

This is a condensed and simple exposition of essentials in modern public library practice, written by and for English library workers.

It includes a brief review of library history and the modern conditions, an account of the usual procedures of library organization, outline of the chief schemes of classification and processes of cataloging, methodology, library extension work, and a chapter on "The library assistant himself," emphasizing the need of private reading and study. There are numerous points of difference in American and English library practice, and the standpoints of American and English assistants are frequently dissimilar (largely on account of our library schools and the preponderance of women assistants in our libraries); but this little manual is a worthy addition to professional literature, and should be distinctly useful in its own field. The appendixes give the text of the English library act of 1892, and a good "Suggested course of reading for junior assistants."

### LOCAL.

Alliance (O.) F. L. The Carnegie building was dedicated on Sept. 6. Mr. Carnegie gave \$25,000 for the purpose.

Boston (Mass.) P. L. (52d rpt.—year ending Jan. 31, 1904.) Added 39,280, of which 24,366 were purchased; total 848,884. Issued, home use 405,510, of which 304,972 were drawn from the central library; hall use 307,006. Borrowers' cards in use, 70,138. Receipts \$335,891.72; expenses \$320,005.38 (salaries incl. branches \$171,750.75, books \$39,928.28, newspapers \$1757.75, periodicals \$5922.07, binding incl. salaries, equipment and rent \$24,101.27, printing dept. incl. salaries \$11,179.24.)

Including trust funds expended for books and newspapers the total amount spent for books and periodicals was \$48,835.19. Among the year's accessions were some extremely rare and valuable volumes relating to early American history, newspapers, broadsides and manuscripts of the 18th century—the newspapers including 800 numbers of the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, partially covering the years 1739 to 1784. 647 photographs were added to the photograph collection, which now contains 15,818 photographs, 424 colored photographs and 6250 process pictures, making a total of 22,402. The special libraries and art department are steadily growing in extent and use. To the Allen A. Brown musical library 308 v. were added. To the department of documents and statistics 1089 v. were added, making a total of 11,000 v., exclusive of U. S. congressional documents and the British Parliamentary documents. This department is being more and more used by students and writers on subjects connected with economics and sociology, persons seeking commercial, financial and historical data and attendants at colleges and schools who have in preparation theses or essays. Of the books for the blind, kept on shelves and tables in the south gallery, "there is practically no use made."

In reviewing the purchases of the year Mr. Wadlin refers to "the conservative policy which the library is now pursuing with respect to the purchases of current fiction." This "has restricted recent accessions in that class to works by authors of established reputations, or to volumes which have been before the public long enough to have demonstrated their merit. It should be borne in mind, however, that the library contains an extensive collection of English and foreign fiction, and selections for home reading have been facilitated by continuing the open fiction desk in the delivery room, supplied with representative works, constantly changed.

"It is not intended to underestimate the value of fiction as a department of literature, or the place of the novel in modern literary development. There are doubtless writers of fiction in our day who are worthy to rank with the recognized masters. It may be conceded, also, that it is one of the functions of literature to afford pure amusement to the reader, or, through the pathway of romance, to open to him a world apart from our strenuous modern life, and that this may be done by means of the novel as in no other way. Nevertheless, it remains true that out of one thousand volumes of fiction, more or less, that came from the press of last year, there were few which were of more than ordinary merit.

"The demand for these books is stimulated by persistent advertising, and with few exceptions they are out of vogue within a short time after publication. . . . In the aggregate 680 volumes of current fiction passed under consideration during the year. Of the entire number not more than 200 were by the authors who are at all widely known. Authors whose reputation is more than local represented a much smaller number. Unless much restricted, purchases in duplicate sufficient to supply the central library and branches, to say nothing of deposit work, would have gone far toward exhausting our available funds. Out of the whole, 135 titles were accepted, many of which should be classed as fiction for young readers."

This restriction of fiction purchases is regarded as responsible for the decline of 2.98 per cent. in the year's circulation for home use, and for the decline of 11.51 per cent. in the circulation of English fiction drawn by adults. "On the other hand, the circulation of books other than English fiction drawn by adults increased 2.42 per cent., or nearly as much as the aggregate circulation declined." As a whole, the circulation statistics of the main library and eight branches show "a decline of 3.31 per cent. in the total circulation; a decline of 10.01 per cent. in the circulation of English fiction drawn by adults; and a gain of nearly one per cent. (0.95) in the circulation excluding English fiction drawn by adults." Loss of fiction from the open shelves amounted to 221 v. as against 349 v. the year before.

The library system now includes in addition to the central building, 10 branch libraries with permanent collections of books, 22 delivery stations (of which 13 are reading rooms), and also as places of deposit or delivery 38 engine houses, 20 city institutions, 85 public and 10 parochial schools — making a total of 185 agencies, as against 155 a year ago.

The work of the children's department is reviewed, and general details are given of branch activities, service stations, inter-library loans, use of books, etc. It may be noted that 29 resignations from the staff are recorded for the year. The report of the examining committee appended is brief, the chief recommendations being in connection with the branches and including "a larger supply of standard fiction, greater duplication of copies of books in active demand, prompt replacement of books reported as missing from the shelves, an enlarged appropriation for salaries at the branches, wider advertising of the advantages presented by the branches and stations."

*College Point (N. Y.) P. L.* The Carnegie building of the Poppenhusen branch of the Queens Borough (New York City) Public Library, was opened with formal exercises on the evening of Wednesday, Oct. 5. The speaker of the occasion was Mr. Arthur E. Bostwick, who delivered an address on "The value of the work of libraries." The circulation of books was begun on the following day.

*Franklin, Mass. Ray L.* "The hours of pleasure," a large mural painting for the library by Tommaso Juglaris, has been completed after three years' work. Eight partly draped figures of the hours are swinging hand in hand through the air against a background of gold. Another panel shows Morning attended by Prudence with her mirror, the Morning Star with a star on her forehead, and Fortune with her wheel. Dawn flies before the chariot of Morning, dropping dew from a jar. On the other side is Evening in the chariot of the moon with black horses, followed by two figures, one bearing an olive branch, the other, a draped female figure of Vendetta, clutching a dagger. On the right of this panel are peasants returning from labor. Other smaller panels show the "Hours of night" and "Hours of day," with many figures, awake and in slumber, draperies, objects of still life, etc. The artist is an Italian who studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris, came to America many years ago, and after teaching art in Boston returned to Europe.

*Georgia, Library legislation.* The last General Assembly, recently adjourned, passed an amendment to the library act of 1901, providing that libraries established under that act — previously controlled by the local board of education — shall be administered by a board of trustees elected by the city council. This



amendment is a decided improvement, and gives on the whole a satisfactory law, though a direct tax for library support would be preferable to appropriation by council, as authorized.

*Gloversville (N. Y.) P. L.* The cornerstone of the Carnegie building was laid on the afternoon of Sept. 3.

*Lawrence (Mass.) F. P. L.* (32d rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, 1903.) Added 1201; total 55,300. Issued, home use 104,153 (fict. 43.3%; juv. 31.1%). Receipts \$17,120.43; expenses \$17,120.43 (salaries \$8000.18, books \$1046.81, periodicals \$558.88, binding \$766.45, rent \$1600, lighting \$1148.11, fuel \$1023.07, branch lib. expenses \$1166).

"An overdraft for \$4467.62 exists, the largest in the history of the library." This is owing to the largely increased expenditure entailed by the completion of an addition to the building, and the failure of the city authorities to increase the library appropriation from \$10,000 to \$15,000, as requested. There were 210 less books purchased than in the year before, and the decrease in purchase is accompanied by a decrease in circulation; a book fund large enough to meet the demand for books is greatly needed. "The Hebrew collection was put into circulation about Sept. 1, and there were 994 v. circulated for home use. A printed catalog has been issued and circulated among this class of people with splendid results." It is desired that similar collections might be established for the French and German residents. Special "students' cards" are issued to school children for study purposes, on which fiction cannot be drawn. Teachers are allowed special cards on which 10 books may be kept for two weeks.

"During the year the library has been made a distributing agency of the General Theological Library of Boston. Notices to that effect have been sent to the ministers of the various denominations instructing them that the only condition required for the drawing of books other than those usually imposed is the payment for transportation."

*Marinette, Wis. Stephenson P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending June 30, 1904.) Added 852; total 9670. Issued, home use 47,519 (fict. 39%, juv. fict. 30%); visitors to ref. and reading rooms 32,869. New registration 903; cards in use 4021. Receipts \$4768.71; expenses \$4580.50 (salaries \$1495.05, books \$726.80, periodicals \$150.93, binding \$296.17.)

In September the library was opened in the handsome building, the gift of Isaac Stephenson, and during the nine months following there was, naturally, largely increased use. The printed catalog cards of the Library of Congress and Pittsburgh Carnegie Library are subscribed for, and a Bodley Club subscription has proved a useful means of supplying current books. "At the request of the Woman's Club six lectures on reference

books and the use of the library were arranged for on the club program, one lecture being given each month;" plans have been made for a similar course to be given to the high school students. An afternoon of fairy tales for children was given by Miss Marie Shedlock, of London, who also delivered an evening lecture on story-telling to an adult audience. The importance of extending work with the schools, by means of schoolroom libraries, is urged, and a plea is made for more books for this purpose. The report is comprehensive and well arranged, neatly printed in a small pamphlet.

*Mattapoisett (Mass.) P. L.* The library building, erected by the gift of \$10,000 from George Purrington, was dedicated on the evening of Sept. 5. In addition to Mr. Purrington's gift there was a small building fund in the hands of the trustees, and other gifts for equipment were received. The library was established in 1881, and contains about 4500 v.

*Milton (Mass.) P. L.* The Milton library was founded in 1870, by private gifts of books and public appropriation, when the population was but 2683; and it has heretofore existed in, first, a wooden building, then in a brick block; it has been endangered by several fires within and without and, because of a neighboring hall, apothecary, paint shop, carriage factory and lumber yard, has been obliged to carry a heavy insurance. As in many old New England towns, its constituency is varied. Starting with mill and quarry industries still maintained on the north and east, and farming in the south and west, it continues the former industries, but the old farms have been fast changing into summer homes. There are lonely lives, home-bound, and bookless so far as new literature is concerned; there are homes wholly bookless; there are homes with ample libraries quite self-dependent; and there are families of the early settler, of the new immigrant, of the suburbanite, and of the city, for the heart of Boston is not six miles away and the town boundary touches it on the north, where the library began.

The library's support has come from public taxation and private interest, the income from bequests now amounting to over \$500 yearly. Up to January, 1897, there was but one branch, in the East district, one and three-quarter miles distant, which made exchanges once a week, but at such hours that a working man or woman must be practically two days without a book; in 1894 its circulation was 2360. But private enterprise had started and sustained a small reading-room in the South district. Upon application in 1898, closer co-operation with the library was granted, and in seven months the circulation reached 414 books; it was adopted by the town in 1899 and named the Russell branch. That year the Northwest district petitioned, and there in January, 1900, the Mattapan branch opened.

In 1901 a delivery station was opened in the schoolhouse of the Western district, distant three and a half miles; it continued 11 months, with a circulation never exceeding 27 books per week, at a cost of about 30 cents per volume. It was abandoned for house-to-house delivery, at a cost (1903) of .06½ cents per volume. The "class of books issued is the best," and many tax-payers now have a use of the library never had before, although giving their support for 30 years.

In 1901 the circulation per capita was 6.5; in 1903, 7.7. It should be added that the natural, industrial and railroad influences have all been decentralizing and larger expenses have been incurred for school administration than in towns of like size but a more concentrated population.

The new building, dedicated in June, is in the center of the town, well situated for safety and accessible by trolley from nearly all localities; it is of brick and stone, fire-proof throughout, and was built partly by a town appropriation of \$50,000 (3½ % bonds), partly by private subscriptions of \$5,000 for the land and \$20,000 for the building.

Since the advent of the present librarian, Miss Forrest, formerly of the Boston Public Library staff, the hours of opening have been increased from four to eight hours, and the activities of the library have been greatly developed.

*Newark (N. J.) F. P. L.* A branch of the library was opened Oct. 1, at 16 Academy street. It contains 500 volumes, chiefly fiction, travel, biography and literature, which may be borrowed at a charge of one cent a day for as long as desired. This branch is an experiment, intended to bring the facilities of the library to the men and women in the chief professional and business section of the city. Although the board and librarian would have been glad to make the use of this branch absolutely free if possible, the nominal charge imposed was necessary as an aid in defraying expenses. The idea has been favorably received, and it is hoped that this small beginning may lead to the establishment of regular branch libraries throughout the city.

*Owatonna (Minn.) F. P. L.* (4th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, 1903.) Added 1088; total 8153. Issued, 29,233, an increase of 6101 over the previous year; from children's dept. 10,151. New registration 564; cards in use 2354.

"The non-fiction circulation has risen from 26.7 per cent. to 36.5 per cent., the largest gain being in the class of useful arts."

Bulletins have been prepared, lists published in the local press, and notices sent to factory employees calling attention to books of importance to their trades.

"One of the most notable improvements of the year was the completion of the art room and its opening in February with a collection

of original drawings loaned by Charles Scribner's Sons. Since then there have been an exhibit of artistic magazine covers, one of library bulletins and plans, and a large loan collection of fine reproductions."

*Pasadena (Cal.) P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending June 30, 1904; in lib. *Bulletin*, Aug., p. 4-8.) Added 1896; total 22,303. Issued, home use 106,160 (fict. 49 %; juv. 18 %), lib. use 81,262. New registration 1704. Receipts \$9254.46; expenses \$8357.68 (salaries lib. staff \$2952.86, janitor \$593.32, books and magazines \$1982.41, periodicals \$452.20.)

There was a gain of 4630 in the home use of books over that of the preceding year, of which 2585 was in the children's department. The more important accessions of the year are recorded.

*Peoria (Ill.) P. L.* (24th rpt.—year ending May 31, 1904.) Added 4145; total 84,972. Issued, 174,700, of which 24,547 were drawn from the schools and branch library. New cards issued 4019; cards in use, 8013. Receipts \$18,379.70; expenses \$17,553.01 (books \$3832.68, periodicals \$840.75, salaries \$5894.01, binding \$2013.22, light \$1143.51.)

The biennial inventory showed 132 v. missing (38 juveniles), of which 45 were taken from open shelves. Mr. Willcox says: "Some of the missing books may yet be discovered or be returned furtively, for I certainly think that the persons who took Talbot's 'Our Bible,' or van Dyke's 'Reality of religion' ought to be convicted of sin by this time. Whoever walked off with Mason's 'One thousand ways of a thousand teachers' has added another way to the list. . . . This matter of stealing books from a public library and of mutilating a periodical now and then—being betrayed and robbed by those we have loved and trusted—is one of the most exasperating experiences of human nature that librarians have to encounter."

An interesting analysis is made of the library membership and the population of the city, showing that the wards having the largest school population have only half as many library memberships as the wards with the smaller school population. If this membership were proportionate in all wards, the total present library membership would be 14,058 instead of 8013. As the chief practical means of aiding educational effort Mr. Willcox urges the need of making clear to parents "the duty they owe their children of teaching them to read early before they enter the public schools." He also refers to the need of enforcing the truant laws.

*St. Louis (Mo.) P. (F.) L.* (10th rpt.—year ending April 30, 1903.) Added 16,320; total (about) 165,658. Issued, home use 902,768 (fict. 48.08 %; juv. 35.67 %); lib. use 101,971. New registration 14,618; total cards in force 58,961. Receipts \$343,014.93; expenses \$315,463.16 (salaries \$29,306.46;

books, binding and periodicals \$23,186.96; exposition site \$217,405.33.)

As usual, this is an admirable and informing report, and—also as usual—it is unfortunate that its belated issue, more than a year after the period covered, deprives it of timely interest.

The results of the biennial inventory are reviewed. It was begun March 20 and the bulk of the work was finished May 4. "It involves the handling of every volume in the collection, the noting of author, title and accession number, and a comparison of the same items on the corresponding card in the shelf-list and the stamping of book and card, and, further, the rectifying of any discrepancy between book and card that may be discovered." The statistics of wear and loss of books are interesting: "In the two years 14,571 volumes were worn out and withdrawn from circulation; 308 were lost and paid for; 37 were lost and replaced by the losers with other copies; 17 were burned for fear of contagion; 6 were sold; 7 were stolen and dropped into a sewer; 1 was damaged and paid for and one was lost in transmission to the publisher; 240 were lost at a social settlement, 8 at a Sunday school, 5 at the high school, and 127 (32 this year and 95 the year previous) were charged to borrowers and not returned. These are all accounted for; we know, at least, how or through what channel they disappeared. But in addition to these, 1458 volumes could not be found, nor could the manner of their disappearance be ascertained. It is quite possible that some of these are among the thousands that were boxed and stored in the Exposition building. At any rate, as always happens, some of them will be found later. This inventory brought to light 177 books reported unaccounted for at previous inventories. The loss through the social settlement was extraordinary: no such loss ever occurred before and it is not likely to occur again. It was caused by the extreme negligence of the former superintendent of the settlement. While in number of volumes it is large, in value it is very small, for most of the books would soon have gone to swell the number of books worn out and withdrawn." It is noteworthy that of the books regularly drawn by card-holders the percentage of loss is absolutely insignificant.

*St. Paul (Minn.) P. L.* (22d rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, 1903.) Added 8095; total 66,463. Issued, home use 194,899 (fict. 50.87%; juv. 24.76%); lib. use 28,800; visitors to ref. dept. 20,701. New registration 5869; cards in use 12,213. Receipts \$57,577.66; expenses \$43,866.99.

The reading room was enlarged and equipped with new and comfortable fittings.

*Springfield (Mass.) City L. Assoc.* (Rpt.—year ending May 1, 1904.) Added 8707; total 131,582. Issued, home use 322,581 (fict. 107,125; juv. fict. 38,889), an increase of 12

per cent. over the previous year. New registration 4220; total cardholders 20,260. Expenses \$29,767.59 (salaries \$13,608.96, books \$6575.05, periodicals \$1012.55, binding \$3051.64.)

There are now 195 distributing agencies; "the more costly project of establishing a branch and reading room in the north end of the city, it has not hitherto been possible to carry out."

The increase in circulation has been accompanied by a notable increase in reference work. Enlarged quarters are urgently needed, and the use made of the library last winter taxed the resources of staff and of building to their utmost limit. "The maximum number of volumes which the building was planned to hold was reached twelve years ago. Since then 50,000 more volumes have been squeezed in by inserting bookcases in every available corner, until the limit of expansion has been reached." The nucleus of a musical library has been formed by the purchase of a collection of musical scores, at a cost of \$195, which are circulated like books and are largely used.

Mr. Wellman refers to the increased cost of books owing to the net price system, and estimates it at from 25 to 30 per cent. "As a consequence it has seemed expedient to curtail the purchase of current American publications. Instead, many books have been imported and others have been picked up through auction, second-hand, and remainder catalogs. The library has thus secured books of enduring worth at very advantageous prices."

The endowment of the Wells Economic Library makes possible the purchase of all important current books in this field, and the use of this collection increased 50 per cent. during the year. "In connection with the Wells library an interesting experiment was made to test the library's influence in promoting reading. The books selected were Van Vorst's 'The woman who toils' and Du Bois' 'The souls of black folk.' The contents of these books were explained at a meeting of the members of the staff so that they might be able to talk of them intelligently to readers, descriptive notices were published in the daily papers and in the library *Bulletin*, publishers' advertisements were distributed, posters were placed on the bulletin boards, and other methods employed to bring the books to the attention of the public. This activity was maintained for six weeks. As a consequence, while a single copy of each book would ordinarily have been sufficient, eight copies of one and ten of the other were not enough to meet the demand, and all of these have been in continuous circulation for the past six months, with from 20 to 30 readers awaiting their turn. A library ordinarily advertises all its books about equally, and there is no standard of comparison by which to measure the results. This concentration

on two particular books has afforded most direct evidence as to the influence a library exerts on the reading of the people."

*University of Illinois L.* (Rpt.—year ending May 30, 1904.) Added 8005; total 66,239. Issued for lib. use 17,767; for home use 22,223.

"The library was very fortunate in receiving an appropriation of \$40,000 for the years 1903-5 for books, periodicals and binding. One half of this was assigned to the colleges for the purchase of sets of periodicals and transactions of societies. The other half was assigned, as usual, to the departments and the general library for purchase of current works, and for current binding. This was not a 'special' appropriation, but the beginning of better times." The more important accessions of the year are noted, a special feature being volumes of proceedings and additions to sets.

Additional shelving was installed in the east reading room, and more shelf space is again needed. "The stack will need to extend upward within two years, and it is hoped that an administration building may be under way by that time, so that the library building may be freed for library work."

Details are given of the technical work, binding, cataloging, etc. The Library of Congress cards have not yet been subscribed for, owing to the desire to give the library school students practice in cataloging, although the library has been made a depository for the L. C. card catalog. "We now feel that our work should be simplified by the subscription to these cards, and we estimate that \$50 a year would secure cards for all of our new copyrighted American books and for cards analyzing our continuations. If we re-catalog the class Natural Science next spring, we recommend using Library of Congress cards. Princeton University last year used these cards in reorganizing the entire library, and Northwestern University is just beginning to use them for the same purpose. They really cost little more than stock. The first card for each book costs 1½ cent and each duplicate costs ½ cent. An ordinary book averages three to five cards, and it costs from 25-35 cents to prepare it for the shelves when cards are written. Therefore, there will be a great saving in using printed cards."

*Vinton (Ia.) P. L.* The Carnegie library building, for which Mr. Carnegie gave \$10,000, was dedicated on Aug. 25.

*Windsor (Vt.) P. L.* The handsome library building, the gift of the Hon. Benjamin Franklin Blood, of Walpole, Mass., was dedicated on the afternoon of Sept. 10. It is a one-story structure (60 x 28 feet), with an annex 26 x 16 in the rear. The foundations and trimmings are of granite, the walls of red brick. Interior finish and equipment

are artistic and modern throughout. The total cost of the building was about \$16,000.

*Yosemite Valley, Le Conte Memorial Lodge L.* An interesting little library is that of the Le Conte Memorial Lodge, opened last year in the Yosemite Valley, under the auspices of the Sierra Club, of San Francisco, for which it is Yosemite headquarters. The Lodge is a memorial to the late Professor Joseph Le Conte, whose death occurred in the Yosemite. A fund of \$5000 was raised by friends and by members of the club, and the building was completed and opened with little delay and free from debt. The Lodge is a beautiful and appropriate structure, foundation, walls, and great chimney being of granite obtained in the vicinity. It is rough-hewn, and as much of the weathered surface as possible is placed so as to face the exterior. Broad granite steps lead to the heavy Dutch entrance door. The main reading room is 36 x 25 feet, and in the further end is a huge granite fireplace, surrounded by book cases and window-seats. The interior roofbeams are left exposed, and are finished in the rough. A unique table has been constructed for the reading room, a heavy top, 9 x 5 feet, supported by two sections of the unbarked trunk of a large yellow pine. The location of the Lodge is most picturesque. It is almost immediately under the towering walls of Glacier Point, in a gentle slope that runs back to the base of the cliffs, and has a forest background setting. A portion of the Sierra Club library, with maps and photographs has been installed, and a custodian is on duty during May, June and July. The Lodge, which was dedicated on July 3, 1904, is described and illustrated in the *Sierra Club Bulletin*, v. 5, no. 1 (January, 1904, p. 66-69).

#### *Canadian library notes.*

*Canadian Reading Camp Assoc.* The report of the Canadian Reading Camp Association shows a continuance of the effective work being done in the lumber, mining and construction camps of Canada. Rev. Alfred Fitzpatrick, North Bay, Ont., will be glad to send a copy of the report to anyone who is interested.

*Libraries and schools.* As the result of new regulations in the Education Department of Ontario, there is a great movement in progress throughout the Province towards equipping the public schools with libraries. The Legislature is granting assistance and the school inspectors are strongly furthering the movement.

*Lindsay (Ont.) P. L.* The new Public Library at Lindsay, Ontario, was opened on June 28th. It is one of the Carnegie gifts, and cost, with furnishings, \$13,500. It is modelled on the plan of the Pittsburgh branch libraries, with a circular stack, and



is planned for open access. It has a reading and smoking room, and an historical society room is in the basement, along with fireproof vault and storage rooms, etc., while on the ground floor it has general reading room, children's room, librarian's room and a beautiful stack room. The furnishings are quarter-cut oak. The whole building is neat and artistic and very complete in its appointments. The architects were G. M. Miller & Co., Toronto, Ont. The principal speaker on the opening day was Dr. James Bain, of the Toronto Public Library.

*New buildings.* 1904 has been a year of new buildings in Ontario. A number have been opened already, and Brockville, Brantford and St. Catharine's are either just finished or nearly so.

#### FOREIGN.

*British Museum L.* A (manuscript) document pasted on the door of the reading room at the British Museum announces that the trustees purpose in future to close the room all the year round at 7 o'clock, instead of at 8, which has been the rule during the winter months. Probably there are good grounds for the alteration, but for readers employed in business during the day the new rule prohibits any attempt to work at the Museum except on Saturday afternoon. Representations, it is said, are to be made to Lord Balcarras, pointing out that the advantages of the reading room should be increased instead of being curtailed.—*Athenaeum*.

*Croydon (Eng.) P. Ls.* (15th rpt.—year ending March 31, 1904.) Added 3693; total 50,483. Issued 448,976, of which 58,150 were drawn from the Central Reference Library. The fiction percentage was 56.4. There were 21,365 readers, a daily average of 70.

The inter-library exchanges between the central library and the three branches has been extended by permitting borrowers to return books to any branch and exchange them there for others; "these developments have completed the knitting of the libraries together into a real organic unity from the borrower's side, instead of remaining merely an administrative unity."

Besides the series of "library talks," given as usual during the autumn and winter, a course of "library readings" was introduced, and is regarded as distinctly promising. "The aim of any one of the 'library talks,' now become quite an established institution, is to popularize a certain group of books, and to emphasize this particular aim lists of books are printed in the small hand-syllabuses of the 'talks,' and the lecturers are asked to refer to the books in the course of their remarks. The aim of the readings is the same; a group of books can be pleasantly brought to the notice of possible readers by reading

aloud extracts from the books themselves, rather than by talking about them, and at the same time, if desirable, the extracts may be introduced, or connected up by brief comments or explanations. The readings were an experiment, and certainly justified themselves."

*Nottingham (Eng.) F. P. Ls.* (Rpt.—year ending March 31, 1904.) Added 3523; total 109,877. Issued, home and ref use 398,830 (50 per cent. "of a recreative character"). Attendance 2,448,335.

"For the 14th consecutive season 'Talks about literary men and books' were given in various branch reading rooms. They were well attended."

*Osaka L., Japan.* The Osaka Library has issued a most attractive little handbook or guide to the library, printed in Japanese, on fine paper, with beautiful illustrations of the building—exterior and interior views—and floor plans, in brown monotone. The exterior view shows a graceful temple-like building, rising from the waterside; the interior illustrations depict a well-equipped modern reading room, card catalog cabinet; spacious newspaper room with filing racks, tables and standing reading cases; a corridor in a fine steel stack room; and charming glimpses of a circular stairway, hall, and a luxurious office, probably for librarian or trustees. Mr. K. Imai, the director, sends a short account of the library, which was founded by the liberal donation of K. Sumitomo, Esq., of Osaka, one of the merchant princes of Japan. The building, which is entirely of polished granite, cost 210,000 yen. When completed it was formally transferred to the control of the authorities of Osaka Prefecture, by whom it is maintained, supplied with books, and managed. Its site is in a central part of the city, in a riverside park, easy of access from all quarters and with a beautiful and picturesque promenade on both sides of the building. The library was opened to the public on March 1, 1904. Since then it has had over 500 visitors daily. A month after the opening the hours of use were extended and it is now open until 10 p. m. every night in the week. The library is said to be the largest of its kind in Japan.

*Wellington (New Zealand) P. L.* As the result of a heavy earthquake shock on Aug. 9 the library was seriously damaged. One of the pediments was completely destroyed, and one whole side of the building was thrown out of plumb. The roof and upper part of the walls, especially in the reference room, were badly cracked. The extent of the structural damage is hard to estimate, but it is very great, and will probably expedite the needed rebuilding. The building was closed by order of the city authorities, pending repairs.



### Gifts and Bequests.

*Boston Medical L.* By the will of the late Mrs. Sarah E. (Kempton) Potter, the library receives a bequest of \$150,000.

*Chicago P. L.* By the will of the late Mrs. Elizabeth Green Kelly, of Chicago, the library will probably receive about \$300,000 as residuary legatee of the estate of her husband, Hiram Kelly, who died about 15 years ago.

*Fremont O. Birchard L.* By the will of the late Mrs. Elizabeth Green Kelly, of Chicago, the Birchard Library will receive a bequest of \$2,500.

*Gravesend, New York City.* By the will of the late Cornelius S. Stryker, of Gravesend, the Board of Education of New York City receives bequests of \$10,000 for the establishment of a high school in Gravesend, and \$10,000 for the establishment of a free library in the school.

*New Bedford (Mass.) P. L.* By the will of the late Mrs. Sarah E. (Kempton) Potter, of Chicago, the city of New Bedford receives a bequest of \$250,000, to be known as the Kempton Trust, the income of which is to be used for the purchase of books, pictures and other articles for the Public Library.

*Oyster Bay (N. Y.) F. L.* President Roosevelt has presented to the library the handsome mahogany chair that was given to him while he was governor of New York. It is high backed, elaborately carved and upholstered in oiled leather. On the back is a silver plate bearing the inscription "State of New York. Theodore Roosevelt, Governor, 1898-1900."

*Rouses Point, N. Y.* By the will of the late Dr. L. C. Dodge, of Rouses Point, that village receives a bequest of \$10,000 for a free public library; \$6000 are to be devoted to the building, and the remainder to books.

### Librarians.

BROWN, Miss Edna Adelaide, B.L.S., New York State Library School, class of '98, has received an appointment as cataloger in the Rosenberg Library, Galveston, Texas.

BURNET, Duncan, New York State Library School, 1900, head cataloger at the University of Missouri Library, has been elected librarian of the University of Georgia, at Athens.

BURNITE, Miss Caroline, has resigned her position as first assistant in the Children's department of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, to become supervisor of children's

work in the Cleveland Public Library. Miss Burnite began her new duties on September 14.

DIELMAN, Louis Henry, on the staff of the Maryland State Library, Annapolis, was on Sept. 26 appointed assistant librarian of the Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore, succeeding Samuel H. Ranck, whose resignation was accepted on the same date. Mr. Dielman, who is a native of Carroll county, Md., was graduated from New Windsor College in 1884 and the year following from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. For a number of years he was engaged in the drug business. In 1897 he took up library work at the state library at Annapolis and in 1900 was appointed cataloger of that library, though his duties there covered a wider scope than the title of his position would indicate. He is a member of the A. L. A. and of the National Association of State Librarians.

GOULDING-PLUMMER, Miss Helen Lancaster Plummer, Pratt Institute Library School, class of 1897, a member of the staff of the Library of Congress Catalogue Division, was married in Baltimore, on Sept. 7, to Philip Sanford Goulding, New York State Library School, class of 1900, also of the Library of Congress Catalogue Division staff.

HARDY, E. A., librarian of the Lindsay Public Library, Ontario, Canada, and secretary of the Ontario Library Association, has severed his connection with the Lindsay Collegiate Institute staff, of which he was English master for over 15 years, and has accepted the position of teacher-training secretary of the Ontario Sunday School Association, with headquarters at the Confederate Life Building, Toronto.

HOBART, Miss Frances, of Cambridge, Vt., Drexel Institute Library School, class of 1904, has been appointed assistant secretary of the Vermont Library Commission, and in charge of the travelling libraries, with headquarters, for the present, at Cambridge.

MATTHEWS, Miss Harriet Louise, for more than 30 years on the staff of the Lynn (Mass.) Public Library, was on Sept. 27 elected librarian of that library, succeeding John C. Houghton, resigned. Miss Matthews' long identification with the work of the library, in which of late years she has had charge of the reference room, has made her thoroughly familiar with its constituency, and her promotion to its headship was urged by local women's clubs, literary associations, study clubs, and educational and civic organizations. Miss Matthews is a member of the American Library Association and of the Massachusetts Library Club.

RANCK, Samuel H., since 1898 assistant librarian of the Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore, was on Sept. 14 elected libra-

rian of the Grand Rapids (Mich.) Public Library, his appointment taking effect Oct. 1. The Grand Rapids Library was recently installed in the beautiful building just completed, the gift of Martin A. Ryerson, of Chicago, whose name it bears, and with its fine equipment has opportunities for great usefulness and large development. The former librarian, Miss Elizabeth Steinman, will remain with the library in a responsible position. Mr. Ranck is a graduate of Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa., class of 1892, and has been active in college and literary work as well as in library affairs. During his college course he was librarian of the Goethean Literary Society, and organized and reclassified its collection. Since graduation he has taken a leading part in the work of the alumni association, being now president of its advisory council, and has been for nearly ten years chairman of its publication committee, and the editor of its publications. He has written much, probably more on questions of college education than on library matters. Mr. Ranck entered the service of the Enoch Pratt Free Library in March, 1892, as librarian's assistant, and continued in that position until April, 1898, when he was elected assistant librarian, succeeding the late Samuel C. Donaldson. The position of librarian's assistant was then allowed to lapse. He is a life member of the American Library Association, and has served on various committees, and contributed very largely to the columns of the LIBRARY JOURNAL. His varied interests, energy and executive ability should make him particularly fitted to develop the Grand Rapids library on broad and effective lines.

### Cataloging and Classification.

The BIBLIOTECA DEL SENATO DEL REGNO, of Rome, Italy, has begun the publication of a *Bollettino delle pubblicazioni di recente acquisto*, of which the first number appears for July-August, 1904. It is a 20-page large octavo, excellently printed, consisting of a classed list of accessions, giving full author entries, imprint, contents, etc., an index of subjects, and an author index. The main entries are numbered, 164 titles being listed in this first issue.

BROWN, James Duff. Classified list of current periodicals: a guide to the selection of magazine literature. (Library Association ser., no. 8.) London, printed for the Library Association, 1904. 10+21 p. O.

This list was compiled to serve as a catalog of the exhibition of magazines held in connection with the recent Newcastle meeting of the Library Association of the United Kingdom. "Its permanent purpose will be to

supply library committees and librarians with a suggestive list of many of the world's leading magazines, which may aid in securing for libraries a representative and cosmopolitan selection of periodical publications." The list is classified, entries being successively numbered, and is prefaced by a table of classification and an alphabetical list of subjects, references being made to the entry numbers in the main list. Size, place of publication, and subscription price are given.

CATALOGING OF GEOGRAPHICAL MATERIAL.—On the initiative of Hermann Wagner, the Royal Academy of Sciences in Göttingen has arranged for the systematic cataloging of all the older geographical and cartographical material found in the different universities of Germany. For the present, at least, the year 1570 is the later limit. The material is to include (1) manuscript portulans and world charts; (2) printed charts of separate countries or of the world; (3) reports of exploring expeditions; (4) cosmographies and similar handbooks; (5) manuscripts containing geographical material; (6) globes. The current issue of the Göttingen *Nachrichten* contains the first specimen of this work, being the report of two tours among the libraries of North Germany by Walter Ruge of Leipzig, who makes a systematic report of his finds. These were unexpectedly rich, especially in the old university library of Helmstedt, of which a preliminary report was given in *Petermann's Mitteilungen* last year. Here were found a number of original charts and not a few reprints of valuable charts now lost. Unfortunately, many are in a bad state of preservation.—*Nation*, Sept. 15.

CATALOGO GENERALE della libreria italiana dall'anno 1847 a tutto il 1899, compilato dal Prof. Attilio Pagliaini. Milano, Pubblicato a cura dell'Associazione tipografico-libreria italiana, 1903. 890 p. 4°.

The first volume of this work was published in 1901. The two volumes record about 140,000 titles. The editor is librarian of the Royal University Library at Genoa.

THE CROYDON (Eng.) P. Ls. *Readers' Index* for Sept.-Oct. contains Reading list 28, devoted to Surrey, and covering eight pages. A short list on "Topics of the hour" (eight titles) deals with "Russian seizure of British ships."

EXPANSIVE CLASSIFICATION. W. P. Cutter, librarian Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass., sends a statement regarding the present condition of the Expansive Classification. Subscribers who may have failed to receive the parts already printed may obtain them free of charge on application to Mr. Cutter. Other parts will be sent free as soon as printed.

The statement is as follows:

Part 1, complete. First six classifications, with title and index. 160 pages.

Part 2, unfinished. Seventh classification.

582 pages printed:	
Local list,	35 pp.
Philosophy,	15 pp.
Alternative for Psychology and Ethics,	17 pp.
Religion,	67 pp.
History,	68 pp.
Social Sciences,	110 pp.
Medicine,	45 pp.
Recreative Arts,	26 pp.
Expressive Arts,	16 pp.
Fine Arts,	40 pp.
Language, Literature and the Book Arts,	143 pp.
Also Additions and corrections,	10 pp.

(A complete set of the Book Arts should consist of the following pages in the edition mentioned, pp. 1-32, 2d ed.; 33-38, 38a; 39 and 40, 2d ed.; 41 and 42, 3d ed.; 43 and 44, 2d ed.; 44a, 2d ed.; 45 and 46, 2d ed.; 47-76, 76a-76d, 77-100, 101, 101a, 102-143. This last page is numbered 15 in sheet 10.)

Each of these parts has an index, except the Expressive Arts, which is now in preparation, and the Alternative for Psychology and Ethics.

The following are in press.

W Art, pages 33-40 (Index).

L<sub>A</sub> Astronomy.

The following portions are in manuscript, and will be printed as fast as possible:

L<sub>B</sub> Mathematics.

R<sub>F</sub>-R<sub>J</sub> Agriculture.

The following are in course of preparation:

L<sub>H</sub> Physics.

N Botany.

O Zoology.

R<sub>V</sub>-R<sub>Z</sub> Domestic Science.

U Protective Arts.

THE FITCHBURG (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin for June-September contains a reading list (2½ p.) on Dante.

THE NEW YORK P. L. Bulletin for September contains an interesting "List of maps of the world, exhibited in the Lenox Branch on the occasion of the visit of members of the eighth International Geographical Congress, 13-15 September, 1904," and the fourth instalment of the valuable "List of works relating to naval history, naval administration, etc."

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE (Eng.) P. Ls. Catalogue of the Bewick collection (Pease bequest); by Basil Anderton, public librarian, and W. H. Gibson, branch librarian. [Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1904.] 6+110 p. O.

A handsomely printed catalog, with numerous interesting illustrations from Bewick's works, and a frontispiece portrait. The collection, the gift of Mr. John William Pease, while not wholly complete, is thoroughly representative of Bewick's varied powers, and most interesting, including also examples of the work of John Bewick and of some of Thomas Bewick's pupils. Its extent is indicated by the several divisions of the catalog, in which are recorded respectively books; albums and collections; biographies, criticisms, and catalogs; sale catalogs; wood-blocks, copper plates, etc.; framed engravings and original sketches by Thomas Bewick; framed engravings and original sketches by

others; portraits, personal relics, etc., a chronological summary of the books and an index are appended. In each division the first edition of each work is recorded in chronological order, followed immediately by successive editions, then by the first edition next in order and its successive issues, this plan, giving in its main outline a chronological arrangement. The "chronological summary" gives a bird's-eye view of the more extended main record. In all 331 numbered items are listed, with full bibliographical record, the references in summary and in index being made to entry-number. There are full and interesting bibliographical, descriptive and biographical notes, and the catalog as a whole is a valuable addition to Bewick bibliography and reflects credit upon its compilers.

THE OSTERHOUT F. L. (Wilkes-Barre, Pa.) Bulletin for September contains part I of a classed "List on indoor amusements."

PHILADELPHIA F. L. Bulletin no. 5: a contribution to the classification of works of prose fiction, being a classified and annotated dictionary catalog of the works of prose fiction in the Wagner Institute Branch . . . by O. R. Howard Thomson, assistant librarian-in-charge of that branch. Philadelphia, 1904. 8+308 p. Q. \$1.25.

An extended notice of the first (unrevised) edition of this bulletin appeared in L. J., Nov., 1903, p. 792-793. The present edition is issued for sale in substantial cloth binding, and will undoubtedly be of service, particularly in the smaller libraries. The former criticisms of plan and method are, however, still to be made, although previous typographical errors have been corrected and some other modifications have been made, such as the omission of the class divisions "Ethical" and "General." For indication of detective stories, sea stories, historical novels, etc., the list is of undoubted practical value; "ghost stories" is a division that might well have been included. Appended is an "Index to the historical and legendary characters mentioned as appearing in the novels," which is a novel and interesting feature and should be useful.

THE SALEM (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin for September has a short special reading list on the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

—Class list no. 10: Adult fiction, 1904.

Salem, May, 1904. 4+121 p. O.

"A working catalog of adult fiction contained in the library on May 15, 1904, and intended to take the place of class list no. 1." Some of the older novels now seldom called for are not included. A neat compact linotype list, authors and titles being given separately.

SAN FRANCISCO P. L. Bulletin for September contains a short classed reading list on Music.

**Bibliography.**

**ALCOHOL.** Aberhalden, Emil. *Bibliographie der gesamten wissenschaftlichen literatur über den alkohol und den alkoholismus, unter mitwirkung von vielen fachgenossen und mit unterstützung der Kgl. Akademie der Wissenschaften in Berlin.* Berlin, Urban & Schwarzenberg, 1904. 12+594 p. 8°.

**BIOLOGY.** Lloyd, Francis E., and Bigelow, Maurice A. *The teaching of biology in the secondary school.* (American teachers' ser.) New York, Longmans, Green & Co., 1904. 8+491 p. D.

There are short bibliographies accompanying each chapter; numerous references to the literature of the subject are given in the text; and chapter 10 is devoted to "zoölogical books."

**CHILD STUDY.** Wilson, Louis N. *Bibliography of child study for the year 1903.* (Publications of the Clark University L. v. 1, no. 4, July, 1904.) Worcester, Mass., Clark Univ. Press, [1904]. p. 83-118. O. Records 486 titles, followed by the usual subject index.

**FICTION.** Hornung, Lewis Emerson, and Burpee, Lawrence J. *A bibliography of Canadian fiction* (English). (Victoria University Library, publication no. 2.) Toronto, William Briggs, 1904. 8+82 p. O.

Arranged in four divisions: 1, Authors, alphabetically arranged, with short biographical notes and lists of works in book form; 2, Unknown; 3, Pen-names; 4, Foreign authors, with a list of their works, the scenes of which are laid in Canada. A list of publishers, with abbreviations used, is prefixed. This interesting bibliography appropriately follows the bibliography of Canadian poetry, which was no. 1 of the university's publications. Like that, it represents pioneer work in its field, and is a valuable addition to Canadian bibliography. Nearly 350 writers are recorded in the main list; the second list contains 60 titles, and 78 pen-names are recorded in the third list. It is curious to find "A chance acquaintance" among the "Unknown" titles, and to observe that Howells's book of that title is not included in the list of novels with Canadian scenes by foreign authors.

**IRISH LITERATURE.** Weitenkampf, Frank. *The Irish literary revival: a contribution to literary bibliography.* (In *The Lamp*, October. p. 238-240.)

Records about 25 titles.

**LANGLOIS, Ch. V.** *Manuel de bibliographie historique.* 2me. fascs. Paris, Hachette & Cie, 1904. p. 241-625. D.

The publication of this volume completes the valuable work of Professor Langlois, of which the first fascicule has already appeared in two editions. The first edition, published in 1896, was reviewed in L. J. 21:512-513; the second edition (1901), revised and much enlarged, received attention in L. J. 26:407-408. The first volume dealt with bibliographies in general, and specifically with the bibliography of general and natural history, and the history of the sciences. The second edition contained also the introductory chapter to the present (second) part, describing the guides to and histories of historical study. The second fascicule is of more interest and importance to the historical student than to the bibliographer, being practically a review of the development of historical learning and an outline of the continual advance in the use, collection, and preservation of the materials of history. It is, in fact, a monograph on the history of historical research. There are two divisions, the first dealing with historical research from the Renaissance to the end of the 18th century; the second, carrying the record to the close of the 19th century, with separate consideration of the progress in different countries. The bibliography of the subject, e.g., citation of writers and of books, is closely interwoven in the text; and the "Manuel," as a whole, is a notable and permanent contribution to the literature of bibliography and of history.

**PEWTER.** Massé, H. J. L. J. *Pewter plate: a historical and descriptive handbook.* London, George Bell & Sons, 1904. 21+299 p. 4°.

Contains a four-page bibliography, most of the titles being of works in foreign languages.

**PROGRESS IN BIBLIOGRAPHY ABROAD.** The *Athenæum*, in its summary of Continental literature in the issue for Sept. 3, notes the progress made in bibliography in the countries reviewed.

In Bohemia, bibliography has lately made some effective advance. J. Truhlar has in the press an extensive catalog of the Latin and Bohemian manuscripts of the University library, and the Bohemian Academy has begun to publish a minute bibliography of current Bohemian literature from 1902 onwards, under the editorship of Dr. Tobolka.

For Italy, no publications in bibliography and palæography are found worthy of special mention, but valuable works in connection with the Petrarch centenary are referred to. "Among others, under the auspices of the Minister of Public Instruction, a complete Petrarch bibliography is being prepared, to serve as a basis to the critical edition of his works that will be prepared at the expense of the state."

For Spain, two bibliographical works are mentioned, Häbler's "Bibliografica iberica del siglo xv"; and a lecture by Gonzalez Hurtebise upon "El arte tipografico en Tarragona durante los siglos xv. y xvi."

SLAVERY, U. S. Collins, Winfield H. The domestic slave trade of the southern states. N. Y., Broadway Publishing Co., [1904.] 154 p. 12°. Pages 140-154 are bibliographical.

SWITZERLAND. Vincent, John Martin. Switzerland at the beginning of the 16th century. (In Johns Hopkins University Studies in historical and political science, May, 1904, series 22, no. 5, 61 p. 8°.) Contains a two-page selected bibliography.

TOLSTOY, Leo, Count. Knowlson, T. Sharper. Leo Tolstoy: a biographical and critical study. London, Frederick Warne & Co., 1904. 190 p. 12°.

Pages 178-190 contain a bibliography, limited to a list of Tolstoy's works published in English and arranged in the order of writing, from 1852 to 1900.

WEATHER. Dexter, Edward Grant. Weather influences: an empirical study of the mental and physiological effects of definite meteorological conditions; introd. by C. Abbe. New York, Macmillan, 1904. 31+286 p. 8°. \$2 net. Includes a bibliography.

WEBSTER, Daniel. The writings and speeches of Daniel Webster. (National edition.) Boston, Little, Brown & Co., 1903. 18 v. 8°. Volume 18 of this fine edition of Webster's writings, at least four volumes of which have never been hitherto collected, contains (pages 581-619) a chronological list of the writings and speeches embraced in this edition. This includes miscellaneous and diplomatic papers, legal arguments and letters of considerable length and upon special subjects.

TELESCOPE. Nolan, T. The telescope: optical principles involved in the construction of refracting and reflecting telescopes; with a new chapter on the evolution of the modern telescope and a bibliography to date. 2d ed., rev. and enl. New York, D. Van Nostrand Co., 1904. 128 p. D. Contains a bibliography, p. 113-128.

TRUSTS. Moody, John. The truth about the trusts: a description and analysis of the American trust movement. New York, Moody Publishing Co., [1904.] 22+514 p. 8°. Contains a five-page bibliography.

UNITED STATES CAPITOL. Volume 2 of Glenn Brown's History of the United State Capitol (Washington, Gov. Print. Office) contains an exhaustive bibliography, classified and annotated. It takes up 13 pages, two columns per page.

## Notes and Queries.

"CONTRIBUTIONS TO AMERICAN LIBRARY HISTORY."—The Librarian of Congress has received from Mr. C. K. Bolton, librarian of the Boston Athenæum, the manuscript of his history of the libraries of Boston, for the series of "Contributions to American library history." The work extends to over 300 pages in manuscript, and describes the development of public libraries in Boston, of the libraries of such institutions as Harvard University, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Massachusetts Historical Society, of the social libraries, the Athenæum, etc., the circulating libraries and the private libraries.

CHANGES IN LIGHTING AT THE LYNN PUBLIC LIBRARY.—At your request, we take pleasure in sending a brief account of changes made in lighting at the Lynn Public Library, referred to in our last annual report (L. J., July, p. 384.) The installation of the lighting at the erection of the building included 750 16 c.p. lamps—many or most of them in huge chandeliers lighting the higher parts of rooms, but of no service for reading purposes. Our reading tables are about 4 x 10 feet, most of them fitted with two standards, each with one 16 c.p. lamp, pointed upward, with attractive globes or shades, but giving no satisfactory light for reading purposes, as the rays of light were confined to a very small circle. The new building was occupied April 4, 1900. From that time to Dec. 31 the cost of lighting was \$600. For the year 1901 the expense for lighting was \$1960; for 1902, \$1150, and in 1903 it was \$1450. This latter amount, however, should not be charged to 1903 entire, as the reverse of 1902 and 1903 would be more nearly correct. Our first change was made in 1902 by using 8 c.p. lamps in the chandeliers in place of 16 c.p. lamps, and in 1903 at an expense of \$225 we removed the (two) 16 c.p. lamps and globes from the reading tables and placed on each standard two 4 c.p. lamps laid in horizontal position under a mirror lined shade about 11 x 20 inches. These shades are not so ornamental as those we removed, but our readers have complimented us on the change. The tables are well lighted the entire length and breadth and for several feet around the floor. We look for quite a reduction in lighting expense for 1904, and have already reaped the advantage of better lighting service.

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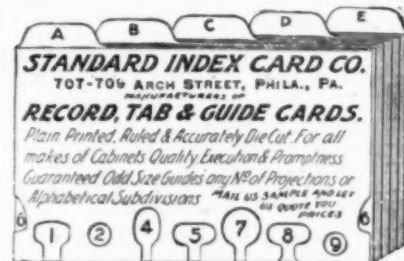
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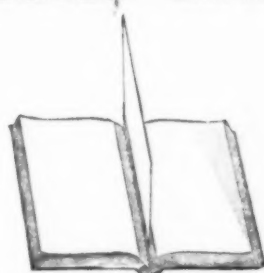
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